

## INSIDE TODAY

### WORLD NEWS

## ISRAELI FOCUS



IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano addresses the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) conference at United Nations headquarters, Monday, May 3, 2010.

*Read more on Page A7*

## SPORTS NEWS

## SERENA'S BACK



U.S. Serena Williams reacts after losing a point during her tennis match against Germany's Andrea Petkovic at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome, Wednesday, May 5, 2010.

*Read more on Page A15*

**Price of a barrel of petroleum**

**US\$ 79.97**

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### SECTION B

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# Three die in Athens riot over cutbacks, debt crisis



Riot police clash with demonstrators in central Athens, Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Greek fire officials say three people have died in a blaze that broke out at an Athens bank during rioting over government austerity measures. An estimated 100,000 people took to the streets Wednesday during a nationwide wave of strikes against spending cuts aimed at saving the country from bankruptcy.

*Associated Press*  
*Read more on Page 8*

# Crews prepare to take containment box into Gulf

HARRY R. WEBER  
Associated Press Writer

PORT FOURCHON, Louisiana (AP) — A 100-ton box designed to help funnel out oil spewing from the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico was loaded onto a boat Wednesday so it could begin its journey to the leak site about 50 miles off the Louisiana coast. The giant concrete-and-steel box is seen as the best short-term solution to bottling up the disastrous oil spill that threatens sealife and livelihoods along the Gulf Coast.

*Continued on Page 5*



Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama attend a celebration of Cinco de Mayo in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, May 5, 2010.

*Associated Press*

## Obama: Begin work this year on immigration reform

ERICA WERNER  
Associated Press Writer  
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama said Wednesday he wants to begin work this year on legislation overhauling the U.S. immigration system, firming up his commitment on a key priority for Latino voters and lawmakers.

*Continued on Next Page*



The barge Joe Griffin turns around in a channel after a crane loaded a chamber, center, that will be used to help contain oil leaking from the Deepwater Horizon oil drilling platform in Port Fourchon, La., Wednesday, May 5, 2010.

*Associated Press*

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People raise their hands to take an oath at a naturalization ceremony during the Portland-Guadalajara sister city association Cinco de Mayo celebration in Portland, Ore., Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Forty-nine people from 26 countries became American citizens.

Associated Press

#### IMMIGRATION

##### Continued from Front Page

Obama's comments at a Cinco de Mayo celebration at the White House reaffirmed his long-held support for immigration reform. He went a step further than he has in the past by calling for the work to begin this year.

Latino groups have been urging Obama to deliver on

his campaign promise of making immigration reform a top priority, with some activists and lawmakers in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus complaining he was not doing enough.

Obama clouded the issue last week by saying "there may not be an appetite" in Congress to deal with another hot-button issue immediately after

grueling fights over health care and financial regulation. There also may not be enough time left on the legislative calendar to take up a contentious issue with midterm elections looming in November, but by making the commitment Obama may at least be able to tell Hispanic groups he tried.

Obama acknowledged immigration reform would be difficult to achieve and would require bipartisan support, which is lacking in the Senate right now.

And he made no commitment to finishing the process this year.

Nevertheless, he said it was the only way to deal with the nation's immigration problems.

"The way to fix our broken immigration system is through commonsense comprehensive immigration reform," the president said.

"I want to begin work this year, and I want Democrats and Republicans to work with me."

Sen. Harry Reid, leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, who is up for re-election in a state with a growing Latino population, said recently he wants to tackle immigration reform this year, although pending energy legislation, another divisive issue, probably would come first.

Reid released draft immigration legislation last week with Democratic Sens. Charles Schumer and Robert Menendez, that urges more federal enforcement agents and other border security-tightening benchmarks before illegal immigrants could become legal U.S. residents. Obama praised that proposal Wednesday.

But the one Republican who has been willing to work with Democrats on the issue recently, Sen. Lindsey Graham, has balked at moving ahead this year.

The focus is on the Senate because House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, also a Democrat, has made clear that the Senate

must act first on immigration before she would force her Democrats into another tough and probably politically dangerous vote.

Again Wednesday Obama denounced the law passed in Arizona that requires police to question people about their immigration status if the officer had reason to suspect they were in the country illegally. Some fear the law could lead to racial profiling, and Obama said federal officials were monitoring it for possible civil rights violations.

The president cited the Arizona law as a reason for action on immigration legislation.

"Make no mistake, our immigration system is broken, and after so many years in which Washington has failed to meet its responsibilities Americans are right to be frustrated. ... But the answer isn't to undermine fundamental principles that defines us as a nation," Obama said.

"Comprehensive reform: that's how we're going to solve this problem," he said. □



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# NY car bomb suspect believed to act alone

By COLLEEN LONG and MICHAEL RUBINKAM, Associated Press Writers

NEW YORK – The Pakistani-American accused of the failed Times Square car bombing is believed to have been working alone when he began preparing the attack almost immediately after returning from his native land, authorities said Wednesday.

They said they have yet to find a wider link to extremist groups.

Two new surveillance videos emerged of the bomb suspect, Faisal Shahzad. Police told The Associated Press that one video shows him in a white baseball cap and a dark jacket walking away from the smoking, bomb-laden Nissan Pathfinder parked in the bustling heart of New York City.

The second video shows him buying a weak batch of fireworks in a store in Pennsylvania, according to the shop's owner.

One law enforcement official told the AP that authorities don't believe there are any other suspects in the plot and that several arrests in Pakistan

in the past two days were not related.

Shahzad faces terrorism and weapons charges after authorities said he admitted rigging the Pathfinder with a crude bomb of firecrackers, propane and alarm clocks based on explosives training he received in Pakistan. Authorities said he was cooperating with investigators and did not appear in Manhattan federal court for a second day.

Authorities indicated that Shahzad, the 30-year-old son of a retired air force official in Pakistan, had launched the bomb plot alone almost immediately after returning to his Connecticut home in February from the visit to his native land.

He did a dry run three days before trying to detonate the car bomb, said a law enforcement official who spoke to the AP on Wednesday on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the investigation.

Shahzad drove the SUV to Times Square from Connecticut on April 28 apparently to

figure out where would be the best place to leave it later, then returned to the area April 30 to drop off a different vehicle, a black Isuzu, the official said. He then went back Saturday to leave the SUV with the car bomb but forgot the keys for both vehicles in the SUV and had to take public transit back home, the official said.

He returned to Times Square on Sunday with a second set of keys to pick up the Isuzu, which he had parked about eight blocks from the bombing site, the official said.

New York police Commissioner Raymond Kelly told a Senate panel that Shahzad bought the gun found in his Isuzu at Kennedy Airport in March, when he appeared to move ahead on the bombing plot.

"It appears from some of his other activities that March is when he decided to put this plan in motion," Kelly said. "He came back from Pakistan Feb. 3, 2010. It may well have been an indicator of putting something catastrophic in motion."

Law enforcement officials in Washington said they



This undated image, obtained from orkut.com on May 4, 2010, shows Faisal Shahzad, the Pakistani-American who is suspected as the driver of a bomb-laden SUV into New York's Time Square on May 1.

Associated Press

had not verified statements investigators said Shahzad had made that he was trained in Pakistan for the attack. All the officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the case.

The FBI was able to identify

Shahzad's name because of information Customs and Border Protection officials shared months earlier, according to a law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the investigation. □

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# Joe the Plumber is elected to party office in Ohio



In this April 15, 2009 file photo, Samuel "Joe the Plumber" Wurzelbacher, who made news during the presidential campaign when he asked Barack Obama about taxes, speaks during a tax day "tea party" protest. Wurzelbacher has won a seat on a GOP committee in his hometown of Toledo, Ohio. He'll be one of nearly 400 committee members who oversee the Republican Party in northwest Ohio's Lucas County. The group elects the county chairman and sets the party agenda.

JOHN SEEWER

Associated Press Writer

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Joe the Plumber is plunging into party politics.

Samuel "Joe" Wurzelbacher, who was hailed as the voice of the common man by Republican John McCain's presidential campaign in 2008, won one of nearly 400 seats on the local Republican

Party committee in Ohio's Lucas County.

But don't call him Joe the Politician just yet.

The group he'll serve on meets only a few times a year to elect the county chairman and sets the party agenda. Wurzelbacher won the seat by a 38-24 vote Tuesday in his suburban Toledo precinct. A message seeking comment

was left with him Wednesday. He became an overnight sensation almost two years ago after questioning then-Sen. Barack Obama on the campaign trail about his economic policies. Later, McCain repeatedly cited "Joe the Plumber" in a debate with Obama.

He was held up by the Republican Party as an example of the middle-class worker who would be hurt economically by an Obama presidency.

Wurzelbacher has since written a book, spoken at conservative gatherings and spent a few weeks as a war correspondent in the Gaza Strip.

He's resisted calls to run for Congress and has criticized Democrats and Republicans alike. He's also taken shots at McCain, confessing in his book that he did not want him as the Republican presidential nominee.

Wurzelbacher remains an icon for many anti-establishment conservatives.

He drew cheers at a tea party rally last month in Cincinnati when he told the crowd not to

let "a bunch of liberal pansies" take away their rights.

"Illegal immigration?" he said. "Put a fence up and start shooting."

Wurzelbacher has never been shy about sharing his views even if they open him up to critics.

He told Christianity Today in an interview last year that he believes gays are "queer" and said he won't allow them near his children.

"I've had some friends that are actually homosexual. And, I mean, they know where I stand, and they know that I wouldn't have them anywhere near my children," he said. "But at the same time, they're people, and they're going to do their thing."

He also said that too many Republicans use God "to invoke sympathy or invoke righteousness, but they don't stay the course." □



Fathers who were victims of spousal abduction of American children to Japan hold photos of their children, Wednesday, May 5, 2010, on Capitol Hill in Washington. From left are, Randy Collins, William Lake, Michael Elias, Ken Connelly, and Douglas Berg.

Associated Press

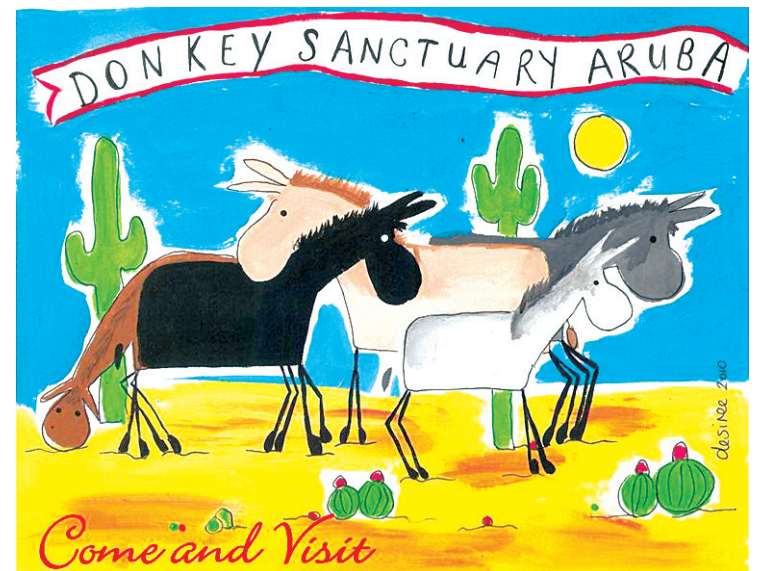
## U.S. congressmen pressure Japan on custodial rights

WASHINGTON (AP) — A group of members of Congress are seeking a resolution they hope will pressure Japan into closing a loophole they say allows American children to be abducted. Dozens of American fathers say they have been unable to see their children for years because the mothers have fled to Japan with their children.

Japan has refused to sign an international treaty on child abduction and allows only one parent to have custody in cases of divorce.

Rep. Jim Moran, a Democrat, and Rep. Chris Smith, a Republican, introduced a resolution on Wednesday calling on Japan to revamp its child custody laws.

The Japanese embassy issued a statement saying it is aware of the issue and its government is considering joining the treaty □



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### Salads

Caesar Salad Station | Peel and Eat Shrimp | Smoked Salmon Display Caribbean Potato salad | Tropical Fruit Salad | Pineapple Cole Slaw Grilled Artichoke Salad | Shrimp and Scallop Ceviche

### Brunch Entrees

Eggs Benedict | Breakfast Potatoes | Sausage and Bacon Scrambled Eggs | Vanilla Pancakes | Local Pastechi Grouper filet with Creole sauce | Arroz moro | Fried plantain Curry chicken | "Chuculati di pinda" | Carving Station Glazed Pineapple Honey Baked Ham Garlic Spiked Prime Rib Omelet Station | Gourmet Pizza Station

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# CONTAINMENT BOX

*Continued from Front Page*

BP PLC chief operating office Doug Suttles said it would take about two days to put it precisely on the seafloor.

"This hasn't been done before, it's very complex and it will likely have challenges along the way," Suttles said.

The pipes and tubing were to be hooked to a ship over the weekend, and if successful, the oil would eventually be brought to shore.

The boat, a 280-foot vessel named the Joe Griffin, was expected to start its 100-mile trip around the Mississippi Delta later Wednesday.

The box is the latest idea engineers from oil giant BP PLC are trying after an oil rig the company was operating exploded April 20, killing 11 workers. It sank two days later.

Coast Guard Rear Adm. Mary Landry cautioned about high expectations for the containment system.

"So, please, I have to manage your expectations and just understand that our job is not

done until this well is sealed, until this well is cemented, our job is not done 'til then," she said.

She also said fires had been lit where the oil is heaviest, near the area of the accident.

Crews last set fire to surface oil on April 28. A 28-minute burn then removed thousands of gallons (liters) from threatening the coast, but weather had not allowed them to do it again. Waves and wind were calm Wednesday.

BP capped one of three leaks at the well Tuesday night, a step that will not cut the flow of oil but that BP has said will make it easier to help with the gusher. BP was operator of the rig, which was owned by Transocean Ltd.

Two satellite images taken Wednesday morning indicate oil has reached the Mississippi Delta and the Chandeleur Islands off the coast of Louisiana.

It's not clear whether the oil is on shore, but it's very close, said Hans Graber, director of the University of Miami's satellite sensing facility.

U.S. Coast Guard Lt. James McKnight said crews remained at the Chandeleurs on Wednesday after officials got a report of oil coming ashore, but they have not located it.

"They're sitting there, basically, waiting for the first signs of any kind of a sheen to touch the islands," he said.

Graber said the images also show oil drifting south, toward the Loop Current, which scientists say could carry it toward Florida and the Florida Keys. The northern edge of the current may have already picked up some oil.

Florida officials fearing tourists will cancel their vacations are trying to quash rumors that oil is already washing up on beaches there.

"We are not two or three days away from it hitting the shore," said David Halstead, Florida's emergency management chief. "The beaches are still open."

The Coast Guard said officials planned to send out about 80 vessels from Biloxi and Pascagoula, Mississippi, and Orange Beach, Alabama,



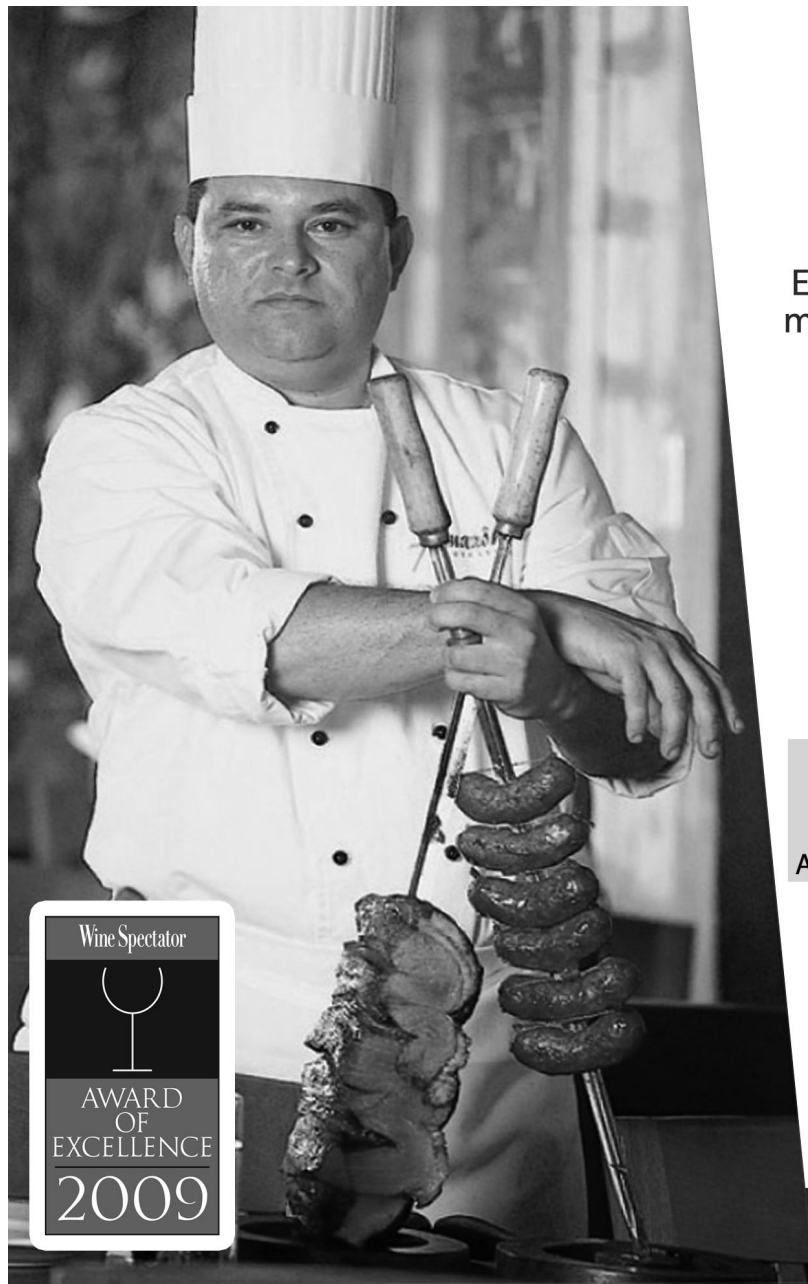
**Workers at the Wild Well Control company load a chamber that will be used to help contain oil leaking from the Deepwater Horizon oil drilling platform onto a ship in Port Fourchon, La., Wednesday, May 5, 2010.**

*Associated Press*

primarily to handle booming. Two Coast Guard cutters would also conduct offshore skimming operations. Crews in Mississippi are picking up debris from beaches to make cleanup easier if oil comes ashore. In all, about 7,900 people are working to protect the shoreline and wildlife, and some 170 boats are also helping with the cleanup. Containment boxes have never been tried at this depth — about 5,000 feet — because of

the extreme water pressure. If all goes well, the contraption could be fired up early next week to start funneling the oil into a tanker.

"We don't know for sure" whether the equipment will work, BP spokesman Bill Salvin said. "What we do know is that we have done extensive engineering and modeling and we believe this gives us the best chance to contain the oil, and that's very important to us." □



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# U.S. senators ask \$3.5 billion for Haiti recovery

By JONATHAN M. KATZ

Associated Press Writer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

— U.S. senators proposed Wednesday to increase American aid to Haiti to \$3.5 billion over the next five years to help the country emerge from the pulverizing blow of the Jan. 12 earthquake.

The proposal introduced by senators John Kerry of Massachusetts and Bob Corker of Tennessee calls for spending nearly 25 percent more than President Barack Obama had said in March was needed to rebuild. Kerry is the chairman and top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Corker is the committee's No. 2 Republican.

Proponents say the legislation is essential to help a country of nearly 10 million people that saw its capital destroyed, government decapitated and 1.3 million people left homeless

by the magnitude-7 quake. The Haitian government estimates between 230,000 and 300,000 people were killed.

In addition to tripling U.S. funding for next year, the bill would create a senior Haiti policy coordinator, appointed by Obama and based in the State Department, to oversee a program of improving governance, economic growth, environmental restoration and investment in women and children.

The measure includes the \$1.15 billion pledged in March at a United Nations donors conference for Haiti, plus adds an additional \$500 million a year through 2014, on top of other funds already pledged by Congress.

That would raise the total money pledged by the international community for Haiti's rebuilding to nearly \$15

billion, including the money pledged by nearly 50 donors at the U.N. conference and \$2.7 billion already pledged for humanitarian relief.

The international aid group Oxfam praised the Kerry-Corker bill for supporting Haitian-expressed needs and leadership in the country's rebuilding. But it expressed concern that the policy coordinator would keep development experts from effectively organizing the U.S. response.

The money could still be a long way off. Even if the bill passes the Senate and House, its proposals then would have to be separately approved by congressional appropriations committees, which would take it up as a contentious midterm election approaches.

Kerry and Corker's bill is the latest in a flurry of Haiti-related legislation in recent



Six-year-old Damien Pierre Louis and other students hold a ceremonial check during a presentation at the Incarnation of Our Lord church in Philadelphia, Wednesday, May 5, 2010. A ceremonial check representing over \$1.8 million in parishioners' donations for Haiti earthquake recovery efforts was presented to a representative of Catholic Relief Services.

Associated Press

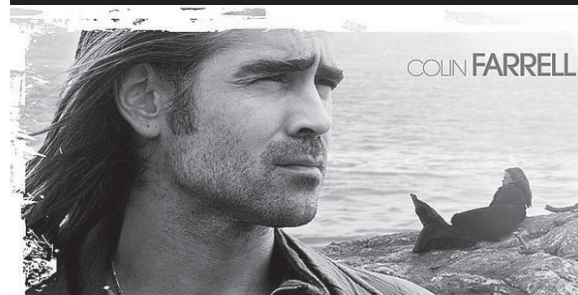
weeks. On Wednesday, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a bill to expand trade preferences for Haitian textiles. Lawmakers had

already passed bills that make it easier to contribute to Haitian relief efforts and calling on international financial groups to forgive Haiti's \$1 billion in international debts. □



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### AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD

PG-13	DE GELUKKIGE HUISVROUW			NEW
	daily:	5:45	8:00	
	matinee:	1:00	3:30	late show: 11:00
R	NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET			
	daily:	5:00	7:15	9:30
	matinee:	2:45		late show: 11:45
PG-13	THE LOSERS			
	daily:	5:15	7:30	9:45
	matinee:	12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00
PG-13	DEATH AT A FUNERAL			
	daily:	4:45	7:00	9:15
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show: 11:30
PG-13	CLASH OF THE TITANS			3D
	daily:	4:15	6:48	9:00
	matinee:	1:45	3:30	late show: 11:30
PG-13	IRON MAN 2			
	daily:	5:30	8:30	
	matinee:	12:00	2:45	late show: 11:15

### AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG-13	ONDINE			NEW
	daily:	5:30	8:00	
	matinee:	12:15	3:00	late show: 11:00
PG-13	IRON MAN 2			
	daily:	5:30	8:30	
	matinee:	12:00	2:45	late show: 11:15
PG	HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON			3D
	daily:	4:15	6:30	8:45
	matinee:	1:45		late show: 11:00
PG-13	THE BACK-UP PLAN			
	daily:	4:30	7:00	9:15
	matinee:	2:00		late show: 11:45
PG	DIARY OF A WIMPY KID			
	daily:			
	matinee:	12:30	2:45	late show:
PG	FURRY VENGEANCE			
	daily:	5:45	8:00	10:15
	matinee:	1:15	3:30	late show: 12:30
PG-13	DATE NIGHT			
	daily:	5:00	7:30	9:45
	matinee:			late show: 12:00



# APNewsBreak: IAEA chief focuses on Israel

GEORGE JAHN

Associated Press Writer

VIENNA (AP) — The head of the U.N. atomic watchdog is asking for international input on how to persuade Israel to join the Nonproliferation Treaty, in a move that is sure to add to pressure on the Jewish state to disclose its unacknowledged nuclear arsenal.

In a letter made available Wednesday, Yukiya Amano asked foreign ministers of the International Atomic Energy Agency's 151 member states to share views on how to implement a resolution demanding that Israel "accede to the" Nonproliferation Treaty and throw its nuclear facilities open to IAEA oversight.

The letter was shared with The Associated Press amid renewed Arab criticism of Israel during an international conference at U.N. headquarters in New York. Islamic nations used the second day of the nonproliferation meeting Tuesday to call for a nuclear-free Middle East, while criticizing Israel for not divulging its nuclear capabilities and refusing to sign the nonproliferation

treaty.

Egypt has proposed that this 2010 Nonproliferation Treaty conference back a plan calling for the start of negotiations next year on a Mideast free of nuclear arms. The proposal may become a major debating point in the monthlong session.

The U.S. has cautiously supported the idea while saying that implementing it must wait for progress in the Middle East peace process. Israel also says a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement must come first.

Amano's April 7 letter comes seven months after IAEA member states at their annual conference narrowly passed a resolution directly criticizing Israel and its atomic program, with 49 of the 110 nations present backing the document, 45 against and 16 abstaining.

The result was a setback not only for Israel but also for Washington and other backers of the Jewish state, which had lobbied for 18 years of past practice — debate on the issue without a vote. It also reflected building tensions between Israel and its backers and Islamic nations, supported

by developing countries.

The resolution "expresses concern about the Israeli nuclear capabilities," and links it to "concern about the threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons for the security and stability of the Middle East."

The U.S. and its allies consider Iran the region's greatest proliferation threat, fearing that Tehran is trying to achieve the capacity to make nuclear weapons despite its assertion that it is only building a civilian program to generate power.

But Islamic nations insist that Israel is the true danger in the Middle East, saying they fear its nuclear weapons capacity. Israel has never said it has such arms, but is universally believed to possess them.

The Muslim countries enjoy support from developing nations. These are critical of the U.S. and other nuclear weapons nations for refusing to disarm, and suspects that developed nations are trying to corner the market on peaceful nuclear technology to their disadvantage — themes likely to surface not only at the now ongoing Nonproliferation



From left, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Dan Meridor, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano walks across the stage to take their places for the group photo during the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, Tuesday, April 13, 2010.

Associated Press

Treaty conference, but at the next IAEA general conference in September.

With divisions deep on Israel, Amano's letter asking IAEA member states for input on the issue foreshadowed intense feuding at that September conference.

"It would be helpful to me if Your Excellency could inform me of any views that your government might have with respect to meeting the

objectives of the resolution," according to his half-page letter.

A senior diplomat from one of the IAEA member countries confirmed that his government had received the letter. He and an official from another IAEA delegation said that to their knowledge the agency was still awaiting responses. Both asked for anonymity because their information was confidential. □

## Shiite agreement gives Iraq's clerics greater say

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA and REBECCA SANTANA

Associated Press Writers

BAGHDAD — An agreement to form an alliance between Iranian-backed Shiite blocs gives the final say on political disputes to Iraq's top clerics, solidifying a role for the Shiite religious leadership in the country's likely new government.

The agreement, obtained by The Associated Press Wednesday, is likely to alienate Iraq's other religious and ethnic sects from the potential new government — especially minority Sunnis already wary of the Shiite-dominated leadership. The U.S. has warned against excluding Sunnis for fear that sidelining the Sunni-backed

election winner could enflame tensions.

Several high-ranking Shiite officials confirmed to the AP the contents of the agreement, which lays out a list of conditions making possible the alliance between Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's State of Law coalition and the Iraqi National Alliance — until recently wary rivals for power.

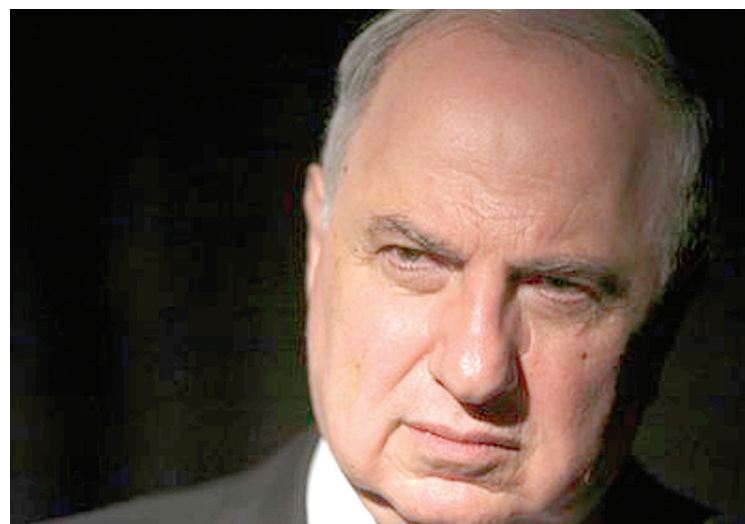
But it is the referee role given to the nation's Shiite clergy, which holds enormous weight with the Shiite majority, that is the most contentious clause to Iraq's other political groups. "The marjaiyah has the final say in solving all the disputes between the two sides and its directives and guidance are

binding," the agreement said, referring to the religious Shiite leadership based in the holy city of Najaf.

The need to bring in the highest religious authorities of Iraq's Shiites is a reflection of the deep distrust between the two rival blocs, but it would also give a government formed by the coalition an overtly religious character.

Neighboring Iran, a Shiite theocracy where clerics have the final word on all matters of state, carries great influence with both groups and has long pushed for such an alliance.

The provision only applies to the alliance, not officially to any new government. But if the Shiite alliance dominates the next government, clerics



Ahmed Chalabi, the head of the Accountability and Justice Committee speaks during an interview with The Associated Press in Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Chalabi said Iraq's other political groups should be reassured by the fact that the Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani the revered Shiite cleric in Iraq who's essentially the head of the marjaiyah has said no political groups should be excluded from the political process.

Associated Press

would potentially have a direct say in policy.

The merger also means that the top vote-getter in the election, secular Shiite Ayad Allawi's Iraqiya list, which received strong Sunni backing, will be

squeezed out of the process — angering his supporters.

Besides the Sunnis, the agreement might also alienate Kurds and other factions, making it difficult to form an inclusive government for the fragmented country. □



# Three die in Athens riot over cutbacks, debt crisis

**ELENA BECATOROS**

**Associated Press Writer**

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Rioting over harsh austerity measures left three people dead in a torched Athens bank and clouds of tear gas drifting past parliament, in an outburst of anger that underlined the long and difficult struggle Greece faces to stick with painful cutbacks that come with an international bailout. The deaths were the first during a protest in Greece in nearly 20 years.

Fear that the bailout won't stop the debt crisis from spreading to other financially troubled EU countries like Portugal and Spain intensified amid the violence Wednesday, as credit ratings agency Moody's put Portugal on watch for a possible downgrade.

The euro sank, dipping below \$1.29 for the first time in over a year, on fears of crisis contagion and concerns that political upheaval might keep Greece from keeping its end of the bailout bargain.

Greece faces a May 19 due date on debt it says it can't repay without the help. The new government cutbacks, which slash salaries and pensions for civil servants and hike consumer taxes, are being imposed as condition of getting a €110 billion package of rescue loans from the International Monetary Fund and the other 15 European Union countries that use the euro as their currency.

Many Greeks realize some cutbacks are necessary to pull their country, which has a massive debt of €300 billion, back from the brink of default, and reaction until now had been relatively muted by Greece's volatile standards. But with people beginning to feel the pain of austerity measures, anger boiled over.

Although violent demonstrations are commonplace in Greece, they usually takes the form of set-piece clashes between anarchist youths and police and rarely lead to serious injuries. The deaths shocked public opinion and could affect future demonstrations.



**Riot police walk past plants set on fire at the entrance of luxury hotel in central Athens, Wednesday, May 5, 2010 during clashes with protestors. Greek fire officials say three people have died in a blaze that broke out at an Athens bank during rioting over government austerity measures. An estimated 100,000 people took to the streets Wednesday during a nationwide wave of strikes against spending cuts aimed at saving the country from bankruptcy**

*Associated Press*

Economists say Greeks face years of living with less to even have a chance to avoid national bankruptcy.

An estimated 100,000 people took to the streets during a nationwide general strike that grounded flights, shut all services and pulled news broadcasts off the air.

Hundreds of demonstrators — including far right wing supporters — broke away from the marches and tried to storm parliament, shouting “thieves, traitors.” At the opposite end of the political spectrum, groups of anarchists hurled Molotov cocktails and ripped-up paving stones at buildings and police, who responded with barrages of tear gas.

Three bank workers — a man and two women all aged between 32 and 36 — died of smoke inhalation after demonstrators torched their bank, trapping them. As their colleagues sobbed in the street, four others were rescued from a balcony.

A senior fire department official said demonstrators prevented firefighters from reaching the burning building. “Several crucial minutes were lost,” the official said on condition of anonymity pending an official announcement. “If

we had intervened earlier, the loss of life could have been prevented.”

Fifteen civilians and 29 police were injured in what Civil Protection Minister Michalis Chrisohoides called “a black day for democracy.” Twelve people were arrested in Athens and another two in the northern city of Thessaloniki, which also saw clashes between police and demonstrators.

“I have difficulty in finding the words to express my distress and outrage,” President Karolos Papoulias said. “The big challenge we face is to maintain social cohesion and peace. Our country came to the brink of the abyss. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that we don't step over the edge.”

Prime Minister George Papandreou insisted that his Socialist government had no choice but to implement harsh austerity measures.

“A demonstration is one thing and murder is quite another,” he said in Parliament during a session to discuss the spending cuts. Lawmakers held a minute of silence for the dead.

“There was only one other solution — for the country to default, taking the citizenry with it. And that would not

have affected the rich, it would have affected workers and pensioners,” Papandreou said. “That was a real possibility, however nightmarish.”

In Brussels, EU officials desperately tried to calm market fears that Greece's debt crisis was spreading, insisting it was a “unique case” combining profligacy and tampered accounts. EU President Herman Van Rompuy insisted the growing debt problems in Spain and Portugal had “absolutely nothing to do with the situation in Greece.”

“Greece is a unique and particular case in the EU” because of its “precarious debt dynamics” and because it “has cheated with its statistics for years and years,” EU Commissioner Olli Rehn said. German Chancellor Angela Merkel urged lawmakers on Wednesday to speedily approve their country's share of the loans to Greece. As Europe's largest economy, Germany will provide €8.4 billion (\$10.8 billion) in 2010 and up to €14 billion more over 2011 and 2012, according to the plan.

“Nothing less than the future of Europe, and with that the future of Germany in Europe,

is at stake,” Merkel told lawmakers. “We are at a fork in the road.”

Merkel's government had insisted that Greece agree to new austerity measures before Germany committed to financial assistance — a stance that drew criticism of foot-dragging. Merkel had appeared to want to delay action until after a local vote in Germany this Sunday, but ratings agency Standard and Poor downgraded Greek bonds to junk status last week, deepening the crisis.

The shocks from Greece have shaken world markets and raised questions about whether the rally in stocks since they hit bottom in March 2009 can continue.

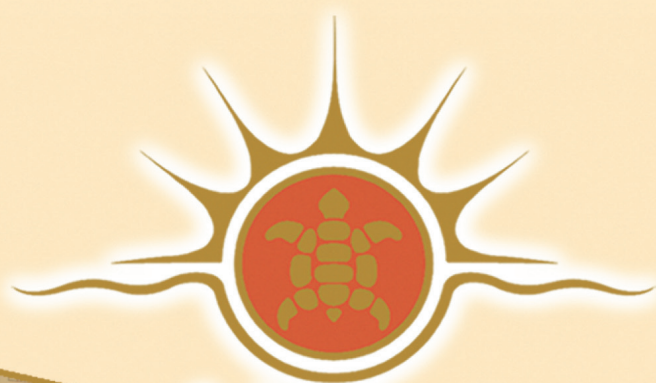
David Joy, chief market strategist for Columbia Management, a U.S. manager of \$341 billion in stocks, bonds, cash and other investments, warned against complacency over the U.S. economic recovery and said this week's events in Greece and Europe “should serve as a reminder that the ramifications of the financial crisis are still being felt.”

“Most of these lingering problems relate to the fact that excessive amounts of debt have been accumulated prior to the financial crisis. It's going to take time for these to be worked through,” he said. The outcome is a flight to safety, in which the dollar rises and money leaves riskier and economically more sensitive assets such as stocks and commodities.

Even with the bailout, some economists think Greece could eventually default on or restructure its debts because economic growth is expected to be poor over the next several years, hurting government revenue. Some also fear the austerity measures insisted upon by the EU and IMF could make prospects for growth even worse in the name of paying down debt.

The new austerity measures are to be voted on in Parliament Thursday. The Socialists hold a comfortable majority and the bill is expected to pass. □





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# Nigeria President Yar'Adua dies after long illness

JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press Writer

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Nigerian President Umaru Yar'Adua, long plagued by poor health, has died at age 58, almost three months after his vice president assumed control of Africa's most populous nation, Yar'Adua's spokesman said.

Yar'Adua died at 9 p.m. Wednesday at the Aso Rock presidential villa with his wife Turai at his side, presidential spokesman Olusegun Adeniyi told The Associated Press, his voice cracking with emotion. Adeniyi did not give a cause of death.

A Muslim, Yar'Adua will be buried on Thursday, Adeniyi said.

Yar'Adua took office in 2007 in a country notorious for corruption and gained accolades for being the first leader to publicly declare his personal assets when taking office—setting up a benchmark for comparison later to see if he misappropriated funds. But enthusiasm for his presidency waned as time passed and he made no headway in fighting entrenched corruption.

He had tried to peacefully end an insurgency in Nigeria's oil-producing Niger Delta that had attacked the petroleum infrastructure, allowing

Angola to overtake Nigeria as Africa's no. 1 oil exporter. Those efforts frayed after Yar'Adua became gravely ill. Yar'Adua went to a Saudi Arabian hospital on Nov. 24 to receive treatment for what officials described as a severe case of pericarditis, an inflammation of the sac surrounding the heart that can cause a fatal complication. He failed to formally transfer his powers to Vice President Goodluck Jonathan, sparking a constitutional crisis in Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation with 150 million people.

Jonathan assumed the presidency Feb. 9 after a vote by the National Assembly while Yar'Adua was still in Saudi Arabia. Lawmakers left open the possibility for Yar'Adua to regain power if he returned to the country in good health. He returned on Feb. 24 but never reappeared in public and did not assume power again.

Charles Dokubo, an analyst at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, said Yar'Adua would leave a mixed legacy.

Dokubo said many would remember how Yar'Adua never fulfilled his promises of increasing power supplies and fixing the nation's shaky electoral system.

Yar'Adua, a soft-spoken former chemistry professor, was propelled into Nigeria's highest through flawed elections but it marked the first time a civilian won the presidency from another civilian in a nation once plagued by military coups.

As president, Yar'Adua was also unable to stem religious violence that has long plagued Nigeria.

The country is split between the Christian-dominated south and its Muslim north. The country's "middle belt," where dozens of ethnic groups vie for control of fertile lands, has become an epicenter of violence where more than 500 have died since the beginning of the year in tit-for-tat massacres of Muslims and Christians. Politics, jobs and land often motivate the killings.

Yar'Adua was committed to ending the violence in the oil-rich Niger Delta, where the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta had been attacking oil installations, kidnapping petroleum company employees and fighting government troops. MEND began its fight in January 2006 to protest the unrelenting poverty of people in the Niger Delta.

The unrest had cut Nigeria's oil

production by about a million barrels a day. Yar'Adua started formal peace talks earlier this year with MEND and met with Henry Okah, the group's longtime leader. The entreaties drew more than 8,000 militants into surrendering their arms as part of a government amnesty program.

"The general amnesty I extended to all militants in the Niger Delta has led to the laying down of arms and a return of peace," Yar'Adua said in October. But militants later resumed attacks, saying the government had failed to own up to its commitments under the amnesty like sharing the nation's oil wealth with the delta.

Born into one of Nigeria's best-known political families in northern Nigeria in 1951, Yar'Adua earlier worked as a chemistry professor at a university in his home state of Katsina. He became Katsina's governor and later emerged as the consensus pick among the ruling Peoples' Democratic Party, run by then-President Olusegun Obasanjo, a former military dictator.

The 2007 presidential election was meant to end a cycle of military takeovers while cementing democratic rule with Nigeria's first-ever peaceful transfer of power between



In this May 29, 2007 file photo, Nigeria's new president Umaru Yar'Adua is pictured shortly after he was sworn in Abuja, Nigeria. Yar'Adua died Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at age 58.

Associated Press

civilian rulers. International observers said the vote was rigged. Thugs stole ballot boxes and electoral officials thumb-printed stacks of voting cards with police looking on. However, Yar'Adua wasn't widely considered to have arranged the stolen vote.

"We acknowledge that our elections were not perfect and had lapses and shortcomings," Yar'Adua said in his May 29, 2007, inaugural address. "I also believe that our experiences represent an opportunity to learn from our mistakes." □



# Bret Michaels says hemorrhage felt like gunshot



**FILE** -In this Jan. 10, 2010 photo Singer Bret Michaels arrives at the NBC Universal Winter 2010 press tour party in Pasadena, California.

(AP Photo/Dan Steinberg)

LOS ANGELES — Poison frontman Bret Michaels thought a burglar shot him in the back of the head when he suffered a brain hemorrhage last month that left him in intensive care for nearly two weeks.

The outspoken 47-year-old contestant on NBC's "The Celebrity Apprentice" told People magazine that the subarachnoid hemorrhage "sounded like a handgun, like it literally popped."

"It made my mind go almost blank," he said. "My neck tensed up. I couldn't move my head at all."

Michaels said after he experienced the sensation, he began pacing his living room then asked his girlfriend, Kristi Gibson, to take him to the emergency room.

"I knew I was slurring my words, and I was like 'OK, this isn't a headache. There's something really bad happening,'" he said.

Michaels recalled asking an emergency room doctor if he was going to die, and if he had a chance to survive, he didn't want his two daughters, 9-year-old Raine Elizabeth and 5-year-old Jorja Bleu, "to see me in this condition."

Michaels was recovering from his April 12 emergency appendectomy at the at his Scottsdale, Ariz., home he shares with Gibson and their two daughters when he felt the severe headache.

He was admitted into a hospital April 22 and was later diagnosed with a subarachnoid hemorrhage, which causes bleeding in the fluid-filled spaces around the base of the brain. Dr. Joseph Zabramski said at a Tuesday news conference that Michaels was expected to make a full recovery.

Michaels will receive therapy and will probably continue to suffer from severe pain for another seven to 10 days as blood pooled under his brain dissolves, said Zabramski, chief of cerebrovascular surgery at the Barrow Neurological Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix.

"I'm a believer it's a combination of will and good faith," Michaels said. "Will — and good medical attention — and faith. It just wasn't my time yet. I really believe that. If I had stayed on the couch for another hour, that probably would've done me in. In a weird way, God intervened: The appendicitis forced me to come home for a couple of days."

The magazine said Michaels moved to a physical therapy rehabilitation facility on April 30.

Michaels, one of the five stars remaining on the business-themed reality TV show "The Celebrity Apprentice," said he plans to make a "positive bucket list" and wants to "continue to rock the world, and I want to continue to love my family and be a good father." □

## Review: 'Iron Man 2' doesn't soar quite so high

By CHRISTY LEMIRE,  
AP Movie Critic

Lots of things get blown up and torn apart in "Iron Man 2," as you would expect from any self-respecting blockbuster kicking off the summer movie season.

The magnitude of destruction far exceeds that of its predecessor — from rows of cars to armies of drones to Tony Stark's cliff-top Shangri-La — and includes repeated instances of characters walking away from a massive fireball without looking back. 'Cause looking back is for wimps.

But that's not all that gets obliterated here. The substance of the original "Iron Man," the brain and the soul that set it apart from the typical seasonal fare and made it one of the best films of 2008, also have been blown to bits.

Tony Stark had purpose back then, and despite the outlandish fantasy of his Marvel Comics-inspired story, as a person he had a believable arc. Crafting the high-tech suit and transforming himself into a superhero gave this selfish industrialist and self-

destructive playboy a sense of drive, a reason for being beyond just his whims and indulgences.

Here, he's purely arrogant once more, with some glimmers of mortality and daddy issues. And Robert Downey Jr., so irresistibly verbal and quick on his feet in the first film (and in pretty much every film he's ever made), seems to be on autopilot. Sure, he's got a way with a one-liner, and his comic timing is indisputable, but he's done this song-and-dance routine before and seems rather bored with it.

Then again the character — and the sequel itself — are less defined this time. Narratively, "Iron Man 2" is a mess. Director Jon Favreau, working from a script by Justin Theroux, throws in too many subplots, too many characters — and what a waste of that cast, actors who can really act like Mickey Rourke, Sam Rockwell, Don Cheadle and Samuel L. Jackson in an eye patch as Nick Fury, offering a bit of foreshadowing to "The Avengers" film. (For more Marvel movie geekery, stick

around until the end of the credits.)

As we recall from the last line of the first film, the whole world knows that Stark is indeed Iron Man. Now the government (led by Garry Shandling as a sniveling senator) wants him to turn over the suit for the military's benefit, and his best friend, Lt. Col. James "Rhodey" Rhodes (Cheadle in place of Terrence Howard) can only do so much to protect him.

Meantime, there's a new foe in the form of Russian bad guy Ivan Vanko (Rourke, buried beneath tattoos and a Boris-and-Natasha accent), who's built a suit of his own in his dank Siberian abode, complete with electrified tentacles; sadly, he and fellow acting heavyweight Downey spend most of their screen time apart. In no time, Stark's rival, Justin Hammer (Rockwell, turning on the smarm) snaps up Vanko and asks him to build an army of Iron Men for himself.

Then there's the battle Stark is waging internally, as he reflects on his own weakening body and the memories of a



**In this film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Scarlett Johansson is shown in a scene is shown from, 'Iron Man 2.'**

(AP Photo/Paramount Pictures, Francois Duhamel)

scientist father (John Slattery, glimpsed in old movies) who didn't love him enough. And speaking of love, "Iron Man 2" also tries to find time for the blossoming relationship between Stark and his right-hand woman, Pepper Potts (Gwyneth Paltrow), while dangling the possibility of a dalliance with a mysterious new assistant (Scarlett Johansson).

So yeah, there's a lot going on here. The enemy — the focal point of the whole movie, for that matter — remains murky, making you realize about halfway through that

it's unclear exactly what "Iron Man 2" is supposed to be about.

Favreau seemed to handle all the expensive toys effortlessly the first time, an exciting discovery given his previous work on smaller films like "Made" and "Elf." The strain shows now in a lack of momentum and a reliance on generically bombastic action sequences. (The final showdown looks like several blips of light, chasing each other around the skies above New York's Flushing Meadows.) □



## BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

## Government debt explosion hits turning point

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER,

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON – The government's explosive borrowing has hit a turning point: It's expected to drop 18 percent this year after last year's record high.

The brighter picture is due to higher tax revenue and less government spending as the economy has improved.

The Obama administration still expects this year's deficit to set another high: \$1.56 trillion. Even if, as expected, that number declines a bit when the administration issues a revised estimate this summer, it isn't likely to drop below \$1.4 trillion. That would match last year's all-time record.

The stronger economy is boosting federal tax revenue and lowering emergency spending needed to stabilize the financial system and invigorate the recovery. As a result, the Treasury Department has trimmed its estimated borrowing needs for this budget year to \$1.459 trillion. That's down 18.3 percent from last year's record \$1.786 trillion.

Because of the drop, Treasury said Wednesday it's reducing its borrowing amount at its quarterly auction to \$78 billion in a series of three debt auctions next week. That's down from a record \$81 billion at the last quarterly action in February. It marks the first decline in the amount the government plans to borrow at a quarterly auction since May 2007. Many economists view it as a watershed event, indicating that the high point for Treasury's debt demands had passed.

"The government still needs boatloads of money, but at least borrowing has peaked," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. "The better economy is helping to slow the growth in spending, and the improvement in the financial system means that banks are now paying back the money they received last year."

The deficit, along with the nation's \$14.3 trillion debt ceiling, have become political challenges for the Obama administration and lawmakers on Capitol Hill. Public outcry over both nearly sank the health care overhaul. Lawmakers have been under pressure to show more fiscal responsibility with every legislation under consideration.

A presidentially appointed deficit commission is scheduled to report by year's end on what spending cuts or higher taxes, or both, are needed to control future deficits. In addition, lawmakers have adopted rules requiring new non-emergency spending to be offset by tax increases or spending cuts.

A reduction in borrowing could help ease some concerns. But it hardly signals an end to the problems.

The deficit soared to \$1.4 trillion last year. Private analysts say it will be around that level this year, too. The administration expects the deficit for 2011 to decline only slightly to \$1.227 trillion. In fact, the administration doesn't see the budget deficit falling below \$706 billion for any year over the next decade. That means the government would pile up an additional \$8.5 trillion in debt over that time that would have to be financed.

The administration has stressed it recognizes the need to reduce future deficits and is committed to reducing the deficit, as a percentage of the economy, to 3 percent over the next five years. That would be down from 10 percent of GDP this year. □

## Stocks extend decline on European debt worries

By STEPHEN BERNARD

and TIM PARADIS,

AP Business Writers

NEW YORK – The stock market extended its slide Wednesday after investors couldn't shake their concerns about European countries' big debt loads.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended with a loss of 60 points to put its two-day drop at 285 points. The Dow halved its loss by the close but finished off its highs.

Treasury prices rose and pushed down interest rates in the bond market for a second day.

A drop in the euro and a rise in the dollar continued to ram markets around the world. The stronger dollar hurts U.S. stocks by cutting into profits of U.S. companies that do business abroad. A higher dollar also hurts commodity prices by reducing demand from foreign buyers.

Investors are concerned that a \$144 billion aid package for Greece won't be adequate to keep debt problems in Europe from spreading. There were also questions about whether the bailout would amount to more than a short-term fix for Greece, which has the smallest economy in the European Union.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Wednesday encouraged lawmakers in Berlin to rush the approval of Germany's \$29.3 billion share of the Greek rescue program by Friday. Analysts say delays could bring more upheaval to global markets.

Investors fear that if a tourniquet for Greece's financial problems doesn't hold, it would be harder to help larger countries like Spain and Portugal that also face big deficits. Moody's



Specialist Mario Picone at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, May 5, 2010

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Investors Service warned on Wednesday that it could cut Portugal's credit rating two notches in the next three months.

Adam Gould, senior portfolio manager at Direxion Funds in New York, said the lack of clarity about what will happen in Europe is keeping investors from wanting to buy dips in the market the way they have for most of the market's 14-month recovery.

"This is really a story that has the market spooked," he said. "First it was Greece. Now it's Spain and Portugal."

Fixing Greece's financial problems won't be easy. Riots erupted in Athens on Wednesday over tax hikes and government spending cuts that the International Monetary Fund and other European nations are requiring as part of the bailout. Tens of thousands of people took to the streets and three people were killed in the protests.

The problems of heavy government debts are a big test for the euro. Sixteen countries use the common currency. The euro fell against the dollar, hitting its lowest level in 14 months in morning trading.

Swings in global stock markets have intensified in the past week. Wednesday was the sixth time in seven days the Dow moved by more than 100 points. Investors have questions about Greece but they're also awaiting the government's April jobs report on Friday and monitoring Washington's overhaul of the rules that govern financial companies.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow fell 59.94, or 0.6 percent, to 10,866.83. It had been up as much as 20 points and down nearly 112 points.

The Dow is down 2.6 percent in two days, its steepest back-to-back drop in three months. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 9.42, or 0.8 percent, to 1,164.18, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 24.14, or 1 percent, to 2,400.11.

Bond prices rose. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.56 percent from 3.60 percent late Tuesday.

Gold rose. Crude oil fell \$2.77 to \$79.97 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. □



# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### NL Roundup

## Phillies beat Cards in 10

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Carlos Ruiz hit a leadoff home run in the bottom of the 10th inning to give the Philadelphia Phillies a 2-1 win over the St. Louis Cardinals in Tuesday's clash of National League pennant contenders.

Phillies starter Cole Hamels didn't concede a run entering the ninth inning, but after a fan ran onto the field, Hamels allowed consecutive doubles to David Freese and Yadier Molina to tie the game.

Philadelphia closer Brad Lidge kept the game tied. Then Ruiz, who had hit a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the seventh, homered against Blake Hawksworth (0-1) to end the game. Jose Contreras (2-1) pitched a scoreless inning to earn the win.

It was the second straight day in which a fan invaded the field. While a teenager was Tasered on Monday, this time the man gave himself up without incident.

### Padres 3, Rockies 2

In San Diego, Chase Headley singled in the winning run in the ninth inning to lift San Diego over Colorado.

Headley's single to right-center scored rookie Lance Zawadski from second base after Rockies pitcher Franklin Morales (0-3) had intentionally walked Adrian Gonzalez.

In four plate appearances immediately following an intentional walk to Gonzalez this season, Headley is 3 for 3 with a double, home run and sacrifice fly with seven RBIs.

Padres closer Heath Bell (2-0) pitched the ninth for the win.

San Diego tied the game in the eighth inning on Jerry

Hairston Jr.'s sacrifice fly. Hairston also had a run-scoring triple in the fourth.

### Mets 5, Reds 4

In Cincinnati, Rod Barajas hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the ninth to rally New York over Cincinnati.

Barajas hit the first pitch from Francisco Cordero (1-2) for his fifth homer in his past nine games.

The Mets blew a 4-2 lead in the eighth when Joey Votto and Scott Rolen hit back-to-back homers. Rolen's homer was upheld by an umpire's review — the ball cleared the wall before a fan touched it.

Pedro Feliciano (1-0) got the final out in the eighth and took the win. Francisco Rodriguez pitched a perfect ninth for the save, ending the Mets' three-game losing streak.

### Giants 9, Marlins 6, 12 innings

In Miami, Aubrey Huff hit a two-run single to break a tie in the 12th inning as San Francisco earned a seesawing victory over Florida.

San Francisco led 3-0 early before unbeaten Giants ace Tim Lincecum uncharacteristically gave up a three-run homer to Hanley Ramirez in the sixth to tie the game. Lincecum had 13 strikeouts and left with a 5-3 lead after seven.

Dan Uggla put the Marlins up 6-5 with a three-run homer with two outs in the eighth.

The Giants responded when Aaron Rowand hit a two-out solo homer in the ninth to tie the game.

San Francisco's Dan Runzler (1-0) struck out the side in the 11th, and Guillermo Mota pitched a perfect 12th for his first save.

Huff's go-ahead single came off Burke Badenhop (0-3).



Stadium personnel detain a fan that ran onto the field as Philadelphia Phillies' Jayson Werth looks on in the ninth inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals, Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in Philadelphia.

### Nationals 6, Braves 3

In Washington, Livan Hernandez needed 123 pitches to get through 5 1-3 innings yet still directed Washington to a win over Atlanta.

The 35-year-old Hernandez (4-1) allowed two runs — one earned. The earned run — a homer by Jason Heyward — raised his ERA from 0.87 to 0.99.

Josh Willingham, Ian Desmond and Adam Dunn hit solo homers as the Nationals snapped Atlanta's three-game winning streak and handed the Braves their eighth straight road loss, the franchise's longest road skid since 1996.

Braves starter Kenshin Kawakami (0-5) allowed seven hits over five innings.

### Pirates 3, Cubs 2

In Pittsburgh, Ryan Church's two-run homer put Pittsburgh ahead in the sixth inning, beating Chicago.

Andy LaRoche added a solo shot as the Pirates won for the first time in four home games.

With the Cubs stranding 12 runners, Pittsburgh won for

only the second time in 16 games when they scored three runs or fewer. They are 9-1 when they score four runs or more.

The Cubs, coming off a three-game weekend sweep of Arizona, lost despite solo homers from Alfonso Soriano and Geovany Soto.

Chicago starter Ryan Dempster (2-2) took the loss.

Pittsburgh's Paul Maholm (2-2) got the decision despite allowing the two solo homers and six other hits over six innings. Octavio Dotel earned the save.

### Brewers 11, Dodgers 6

In Los Angeles, Prince Fielder and Gregg Zaun hit two-run homers and Ryan Braun had a three-run double — all in a nine-run second inning that vaulted Milwaukee over Los Angeles.

Los Angeles starter Clayton Kershaw (1-2) retired only four of the 13 batters he faced, surrendering seven runs against a team that had managed only two runs during a four-game series at San Diego and was shut out three times.

Milwaukee's Chris Narveson (2-0) allowed four hits over six innings to take the win.

It was the Brewers' second nine-run inning this season.

### Diamondbacks 1, Astros 0

In Houston, Justin Upton homered for the only run of the game as Arizona defeated Houston.

Upton's shot to center came in the third inning. That extended Houston's losing streak to a season-worst tying eight games.

Arizona's Ian Kennedy pitched 6 2-3 scoreless innings, before Juan Gutierrez and Chad Qualls completed the shutout. It was Qualls' sixth save.

Houston starter Roy Oswalt (2-4) lost despite allowing that one run with eight strikeouts in seven innings.

**In other NL games it was, Washington 6, Atlanta 3; Pittsburgh 3, Chicago Cubs 2; Philadelphia 2, St. Louis 1, 10 innings; N.Y. Mets 5, Cincinnati 4; San Francisco 9, Florida 6, 12 innings; Arizona 1, Houston 0; San Diego 3, Colorado 2; and Milwaukee 11, L.A. Dodgers 6.** □

Associated Press



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### NHL Playoffs

## Sharks beat Red Wings 4-3

Lead series 3-0

DETROIT (AP) — Patrick Marleau scored 7:07 into overtime to rally the San Jose Sharks to a 4-3 win over the Detroit Red Wings on Tuesday and a 3-0 lead in the second-round series. The Red Wings led 3-1 with 13 minutes left in regulation.

Game 4 is Thursday night in Detroit, where the Red Wings will try to stay alive. The two-time defending Western Conference champions haven't been swept since the first round in 2003 by Anaheim.

Joe Thornton scored 6:42 into the third to pull San Jose within a goal and Logan Couture tied it with 6:43 left.

Tomas Holmstrom and Dan Cleary gave Detroit a 2-0 lead in the first. San Jose's Devin Setoguchi scored with 4 seconds left in the period, but Henrik

Zetterberg restored Detroit's two-goal lead early in the second.

Penguins 2, Canadiens 0  
At Montreal, Evgeni Malkin scored a power-play goal 1:16 into the third period and Marc-Andre Fleury made 18 saves for his fourth NHL playoff shutout as Pittsburgh beat Montreal in Game 3 to take a 2-1 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Malkin took Sergei Gonchar's pass and fired a one-timer from the right side past Jaroslav Halak

to give the Penguins a 1-0 edge. It was Malkin's fifth goal of the playoffs, but first since Game 4 of the Penguins' first-round win against Ottawa.

Pascal Dupuis scored into an empty net with 15 seconds remaining to seal the victory.

It was Fleury's first playoff shutout since a 6-0 win over Philadelphia on May 18, 2008.

Pittsburgh outshot Montreal 25-18, including 13-3 in the second.

Halak stopped 23 shots for



San Jose Sharks center Patrick Marleau (12) is congratulated by teammates Marc-Edouard Vlasic (44), Joe Pavelski (8) and Torrey Mitchell after his overtime goal against the Detroit Red Wings during a second-round NHL playoff hockey game in Detroit, Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

Associated Press

the Canadiens, who have three of four this year. lost seven of eight playoff Game 4 is Thursday night games at home, including in Montreal. □



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## NBA Playoffs

# Lakers 2-0 vs. Jazz, Magic thrashes Hawks

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers methodically pounded the ball inside for a no-nonsense 111-103 victory over the Utah Jazz on Tuesday, taking a 2-0 lead in their NBA second-round playoff series.

Kobe Bryant scored 30 points and Pau Gasol added 22 points and 15 rebounds for the defending NBA champions, who exploited their height advantage while maintaining a medium-sized lead throughout the second half of a disjointed, foul-choked game that lasted nearly three hours.

Andrew Bynum had 17 points and 14 rebounds for the Lakers, who didn't mind skipping showtime for a steady win that put them halfway to their third straight trip to the Western Conference finals. Los Angeles is 40-1 in franchise history after winning the first two games of a seven-game series.

For the third straight postseason, the Lakers have a 2-0 series lead over the Jazz after consecutive wins at Staples Center, where Utah has lost 16 straight games — including eight in the playoffs.

Game 3 is Saturday in Salt Lake City.

Utah's Paul Millsap had 26 points and 11 rebounds, with the undersized power forward single-handedly keeping his team in the game at times. C.J. Miles scored 20 points and Carlos Boozer added 20 points and 12 rebounds for the Jazz, which gets three days off to plot another way to counter the Lakers' obvious advantages down low.

Deron Williams managed 15 points on 4-for-16 shooting and nine assists for the Jazz, who never were close to being blown out, but just didn't have the size or the game plan to keep up with Los Angeles' patient inside game.

The Jazz actually got within four points in the final minutes, but Bryant finally injected a little excitement with a shot clock-beating jumper, an emphatic swat on Utah's next drive to the hoop, and a dunk in a 45-second span.

Playoff emotion and strategy have been trumped by simple maths in this series. Without injured big men Mehmet Okur and Andrei Kirilenko, the Jazz simply don't appear to have the bodies necessary to contend with the Lakers' twin 7-foot starters and inside play. Magic 114, Hawks 71

In Orlando, the hosts recorded

one of the most crushing victories in their playoff history, dominating Atlanta in the opener of their series.

Only a 47-point win in the first round against Boston in 1995 was a larger margin of victory in a playoff game for Orlando. This was just one big Magic highlight reel.

Dwight Howard had 21 points and 12 rebounds, adding five blocks while avoiding the fouls and frustration that overwhelmed him in the first round.

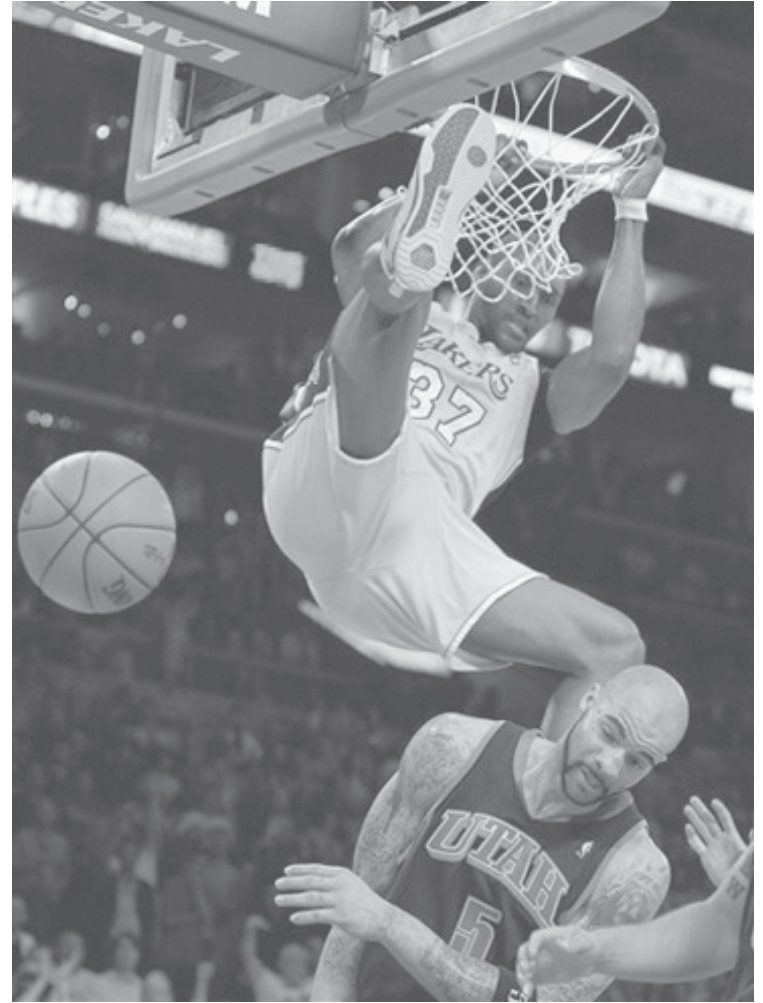
The Magic led by as much as 46 points. Vince Carter finished with 20 points as Orlando showed no signs of rust after an eight-day layoff.

Josh Smith scored 14 points and Zaza Pachulia had 12 for a Hawks team that had little playoff poise. Game 2 in the best-of-seven series is Thursday in Orlando, and Atlanta will have to find some way to rally from an embarrassing defeat.

Orlando scored 17 straight points during the second quarter, while holding the Hawks to just 10 points in the second quarter, and 11 in the third. Howard and most of the Magic starters weren't even needed in the fourth.

Coming off a Game 7

## A-Boozer



Los Angeles Lakers forward Ron Artest, top, dunks over Utah Jazz forward Carlos Boozer during the second half of Game 2 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series in Los Angeles, Tuesday, May 4, 2010. The Lakers won 111-103.

*Associated Press*

victory in the first round, the Hawks were outhustled and outmuscled at every step. The little more than 48-hour

turnaround didn't keep them sharp, and they looked more like the team trying to get back in rhythm. □



Detroit Tigers players stand for a moment of silence before a baseball game against the Minnesota Twins, Wednesday, May 5, 2010, in Minneapolis, to honor longtime Tigers broadcaster Ernie Harwell who died on Tuesday.

*Associated Press*

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Hours after learning beloved Tigers announcer Ernie Harwell had died, Detroit lost 4-3 to the Minnesota Twins in a clash of the American League Central's two top teams on Tuesday.

Brennan Boesch's homer in the ninth tied it for the Tigers, then Alex Avila hit a two-out double. But Minnesota shortstop J.J. Hardy made a brilliant, sliding stop on grounder by Ramon Santiago and threw out Avila after

## AL Roundup

# Twins beat bereaved Tigers

he rounded third base too quickly.

In the bottom of the inning, Hardy hit a triple and scored the winning run when a pitch from Ryan Perry (1-2) zipped past catcher Avila and into the dugout.

Minnesota pitcher Nick Blackburn (2-1) gave up three runs in his fourth career complete game.

## Rays 5, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Tampa Bay pitcher James Shields won his fourth consecutive start while striking out 10, steering the Rays past Seattle.

Shields (4-0), who has 22 strikeouts across his past two starts, allowed two runs in eight innings.

Evan Longoria homered for the second straight game and had three hits for Tampa Bay, which is off to the best start by an AL team since the Chicago White Sox also started 19-7 in 2005. The Rays have won 10 of 11 on the road.

Seattle has scored just five runs across its past four games, all home losses.

## Athletics 7, Rangers 6

In Oakland, California, Ryan Sweeney drove in a career-high five runs on three hits, including a homer, as Oakland edged Texas.

Kevin Kouzmanoff and Daric Barton drove in runs for the A's, who had lost six of the previous seven. Brad Ziegler (1-2) got the win after pitching

1 1-3 innings in relief, and was one of six Oakland pitchers.

Vladimir Guerrero hit a grand slam and had five RBIs for the Rangers, who had a four-game winning streak snapped.

Rangers starter Scott Feldman (1-3) gave up seven runs over seven innings.

Athletics closer Andrew Bailey recorded the final four outs for his fourth save in as many chances.

**AIn other AL games it was, N.Y. Yankees 4, Baltimore 1; Toronto 8, Cleveland 5; Boston 5, L.A. Angels 1; Minnesota 4, Detroit 3; Kansas City 7, Chicago White Sox 2; Oakland 7, Texas 6; and Tampa Bay 5, Seattle 2.** □



# Venus and Serena Williams reach Rome quarterfinals

ALESSANDRA RIZZO

Associated Press Writer

ROME (AP) — Top-ranked Serena Williams reached the Italian Open quarterfinals in her first tournament in three months after defeating Andrea Petkovic of Germany 6-2, 3-6, 6-0 on Wednesday. Older sister Venus Williams ousted Shahar Peer of Israel 6-3, 6-4. Both sisters are back from knee injuries, and could meet in the semifinals.

However, second-ranked Caroline Wozniacki of

Denmark lost her third-round match to Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez of Spain, and eighth-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland was ousted by Czech player Lucie Safarova, who rallied to win 1-6, 6-3, 7-6 (1).

Serena had been off the tour since she won the singles and doubles at the Australian Open, and she was entered in Rome thanks to a wild card.

Against the 49th-ranked Petkovic, Serena said she felt “rusty.” Her game

was erratic at times and a mid-match slump cost her the second set. In the end she had almost as many winners as unforced errors, 25 to 21.

“I definitely felt extremely rusty today,” Serena said. “I’m glad I was able to win because at least I can be guaranteed another match. I think I definitely need it.” Serena got off to a good start, winning the first set with a five-game streak. But she quickly fell 4-1 behind in the second, came back to 4-3 but conceded another, decisive break to Petkovic. In the third set, she picked up her game and played aggressively.

Serena next plays Maria Kirilenko of Russia, who defeated Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia 4-6, 6-1, 6-1.

Serena said that after her three months off she needs to stay healthy and have match play. That’s why, she explained, she decided to skip social events at home and come to play the clay-court event in Rome instead.

Serena said she told herself to “forget Oprah and Anna Wintour”—who co-chaired the annual Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Costume Institute Gala Benefit on Monday in New York.



U.S. Serena Williams returns the ball to Germany’s Andrea Petkovic during their tennis match at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome, Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Williams won 6-2, 3-6, 6-0.

Associated Press

“I was supposed to be there. I had a fabulous dress,” Serena said. “It hurt me ... I wanted to really be there but this is my career and I need the extra match.”

The fourth-seeded Venus, who had been sidelined with a knee problem since losing the Key Biscayne final, was solid against Peer. In the first set, she dropped only four points on serve and in the second she saved two break points at 3-4 before getting the decisive break in the next game.

Venus said she was especially happy with her serve and movement on clay.

She will have a tough quarterfinal against Jelena

Jankovic, who was in impressive form as she rolled to a 6-2, 6-0 victory over Yanina Wickmayer of Belgium.

The Serb player ousted Venus in the 2008 quarterfinals on her way to her second Rome title.

The third-round at the Foro Italico also saw some upsets.

Spanish player Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez upset second-ranked Caroline Wozniacki 6-4, 6-2.

In other action, Nadia Petrova of Russia won 6-0, 3-6, 6-2 against Alexandra Dulgheru of Romania, who knocked out defending champion Dinara Safina on Tuesday. □



Switzerland’s Roger Federer serves to Germany’s Bjorn Phau the second round match of the during their Estoril Tennis Open in Oeiras, outside Lisbon Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Federer defeated Phau 6-3, 6-4.

Associated Press

## Federer earns 1st clay win of season at Estoril

OEIRAS, Portugal (AP) — Roger Federer captured his first singles win of the season on clay by beating Bjorn Phau of Germany 6-3, 6-4 at the Estoril Open on Wednesday.

The world No. 1 conceded just 17 points on his service game as he rebounded from a first-round loss in Rome last week.

“It was a very important match for me today,” Federer said.

Federer, who had a bye into the second round at Estoril, will meet Arnaud Clement of France in the quarterfinals. Federer won the Estoril crown in 2008 but skipped last year’s event.

The Rome Masters, where he lost against 40th-ranked Ernests Gulbis, was Federer’s first singles match in nearly a month. He took off several weeks after losing in the fourth round at Key Biscayne at the end of March.

Fourth-seeded Albert Montanes, the defending champion, ousted fellow Spaniard Daniel Gimeno-Traver 6-1, 6-2 and next encounters eighth-seeded Pablo Cuevas. The Uruguayan overcame Marcel Granollers of Spain 7-6 (8), 7-6 (2).

Second-seeded Sorana Cirstea of Romania advanced in the women’s event, triumphing 7-5, 7-5 over Michelle Larcher de Brito of Portugal.

Fourth-seeded Anabel Medina Garrigues of Spain and seventh-seeded Peng Shuai of China also went through. □



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*Government ready to institute*

## Independent body to ensure quality medical service on Aruba

ORANJESTAD—Treatment and care of patients in the Aruba hospital need to improve, according to Minister of Public Health Dr. Richard Visser.

Any renovation and expansion of the hospital facilities need to be geared with that objective in mind. In order to ensure quality service, the Department of Inspection also needs to expand its services to keep an eye on how patients are treated in the hospital here.

So far, the Director of Public Health always served as the Inspector of Medicine, and has the additional task to oversee the quality of medical service overall. The Aruban government considered that it is time to separate the two functions and is in the process of creating a new inspection service, to guarantee quality in medical care in Aruba.

The Netherlands and the Netherlands Antilles have already similar inspections in place, and contacts with the two countries will facilitate the set up of an agency here to have a much

better control on how general practitioners, specialists and the hospital among others are providing medical care to patients in Aruba.

The discussion on quality care is not new. For years people in Aruba have been complaining about the issue, particularly at the sole hospital in Aruba. In addition, people also criticize the fact, that much equipment necessary for diagnosis for instance are constantly out of order. Minister Visser acknowledged that this is a perception, but that the reality is not as alarming. The hospital many times has replacement parts in house, but somehow proper coordination of tasks hampers the processes.

The lack of an overview on what is working or not, is also because of the absence of a proper entity to supervise not only the people care but also to ensure the technical strength of the medical service in general. An independent inspection therefore can provide the necessary guidance to the Aruba hospital to be better prepared for challenges ahead. □



*According to the annual survey to measure the customer's satisfaction*

## Passengers are very satisfied with airport's service



ORANJESTAD – For the third consecutive year has Aruba Airport Authority N.V. conveyed an annual survey among the passengers. The survey “Customer Satisfaction Survey” consists of a series of questions where the passengers can qualify all services and

facilities that they have to undergo and experience from the moment the passenger arrives at the airport until the moment they have to board their flight.

The survey took place during the peak hours so that we could get a better view on how

our services are during when we operate at our maximum capacity. It doesn't refer to only AAA's service, but to all the companies and government departments present at the airport.

The result was very satisfactory, where the

security and immigrations departments of our airport stood out and in second place the check-in process. In the survey furthermore stood out that to the passenger it is very important that they feel safe and protected at the airport. At the same time the amiability and courtesy of our airport employees and the cleanliness of our airport are qualified as one of the best experiences of our passengers at the airport. The survey also gives us a chance to compare ourselves to other airports through the Airport Service Quality, which is one of the world's biggest benchmarking companies

where we can measure ourselves with the industry standards. This comparison was very satisfactory where Queen Beatrix International Airport scored “excellent” on most of the top 10 most essential factors of “High Customer Service in Top Performing Airports” Director of AAA Mr. Peter Steinmetz: “We are very proud of the results of the survey and we thank the whole airport community in helping us achieve these satisfactory results and encourage everyone to continue with the good job”. □





*Mom is the word!*

# Taste of Belgium's chocolaterie is ready for Mother's Day!



ORANJESTAD - A wide array of delicious chocolates is waiting for everyone who buys chocolates for Mother's Day at Taste of Belgium's chocolaterie in the



Renaissance Mall. Gorgeous I Love You, Mum mugs filled with chocolates and coffee beans, chocolates in the shape of hearts, gift wrapped chocolates and even a special Mother's Day selection of no sugar added bars of chocolate

or chocolates are waiting to be bought. Mom is the word here, so go all out for her.

Always a terrific place to soothe your sweet tooth, Taste of Belgium is also great for a cup of cappuccino, a latte, a

cup of tea or a pastry on the small terrace outside.

The opening hours of Taste of Belgium's Chocolaterie are from 10 am until 6 pm. Go have a look at the colorful Mother's Day display and make your mom happy. □

*YMCA Educational Center joins forces with Management School for Tourism Studies*

## Summer management courses at the YMCA

SAN NICOLAS — YMCA is offering summer school for managers in Aruba.

YMCA Educational Center in collaboration with the Management School for Tourism Studies of the University of Aruba is offering unique opportunity to executives who want to make good use of the upcoming summer vacation period for upgrading. This management summer program will explore this new emerging business reality and the challenges and opportunities it provides for businesses and managers in our local environment. Building on different themes and subjects, the program will provide an innovative and integrated perspective on management innovation and business development. The program will discuss the implications and strategies for thriving in a new economy, and what new principles and best practices can be applied. Trapped in what seems to be a perfect storm, businesses across the globe are experiencing tectonic transformations as they face tumultuous times. Organizations are indeed experiencing a rude awakening

from what was once a steady and secure pace in development and growth. Set at the throes of turbulence, sustainability has become a strategy of share survival. As businesses bravely venture out in a new economy they face uncharted territory,

for which new strategic thought and direction is required. Many organizations find themselves caught between managing the competing needs for, on the one hand, flexibility and agility within the context of competitive volatility, and concurrently, the need for stability, control, and resource efficiency in a context of capital vulnerability. How to manage and exploit the multiplicity of seemingly contradictory forces in a dynamic environment remains a perennial item on the agenda of executives and managers.

As organizations set out to create cultures of operational excellence, quality and customer-centeredness in a new economy, managers have come to realize that their basic tool box no longer suffices. To move beyond this strategic quandary, executives and managers will have to creatively deconstruct 'old school' tactics and develop new and smart strategies for getting back to business in a new economy.

The program consists of seven integrated modules that focus on different aspect of business and management developed. The modules can be taken separately or followed as a complete program. Areas covered by the management program include strategy, leadership, finance, marketing, human resources and communication. All modules are

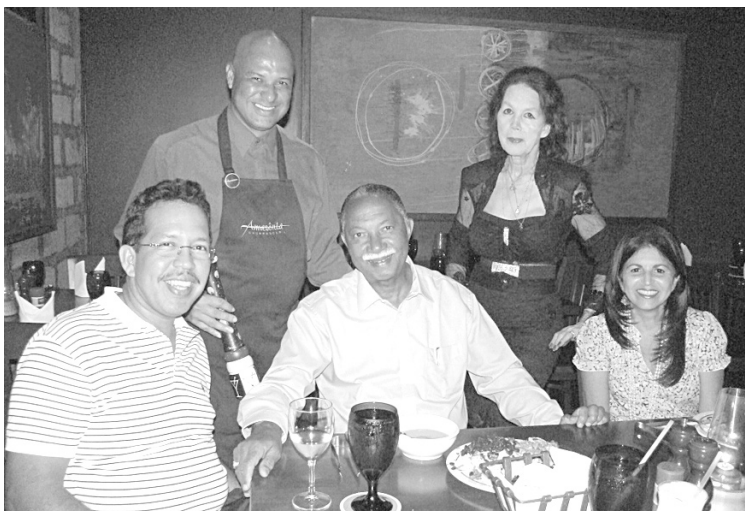
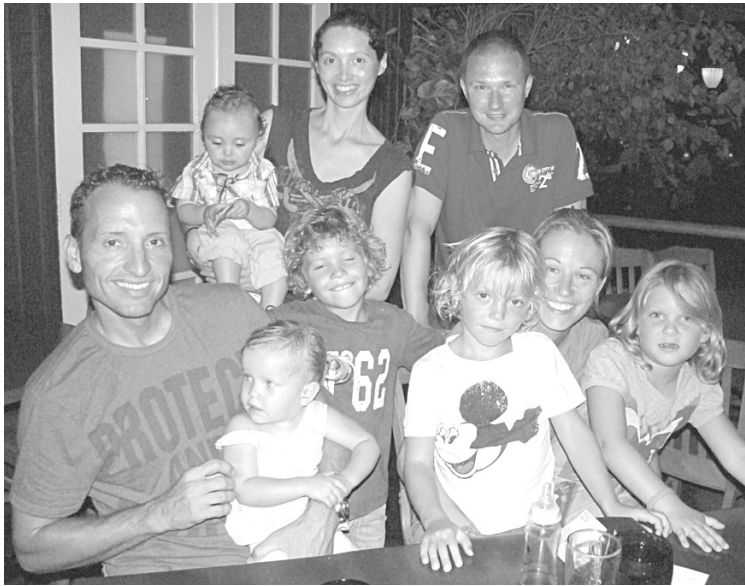
delivered by qualified university professors, which combine both business experience and insights on new trends and tactics in different fields of business and management.

The program covers the following modules: Strategizing in a new economy; building competitive advantage; leading with intelligence; creating new markets; managing financial assets; maximizing the human potential; and capitalizing on communication. Participants have the option to register for one or more modules, or follow the complete program. Individual modules cost Afl 200,- (including materials), and the complete program has a discount of Afl 400,-, for the price of Afl. 1000,-. Upon completion of individual modules, participants will receive an official certificate of completion. Special recognition and certification will be given to participants that complete all modules successfully

The management summer program will be organized and delivered at the YMCA Educational Center Dakota on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6pm to 9pm. For registration and payment contact: YMCA Educational Center c/o Percy Phelipa, Calabasstr. 1, Dakota, tel: 582-3072, 583-1301. E-mail: ymca\_dakaua@hotmail.com □



# Amazonia celebrates Queen's Birthday



PALM BEACH -- Locals and tourists enjoyed Queen's birthday celebration at Amazonia Churrascaria. Dr. Kock with wife Marina hosted known pianist Alwin Toppenberg and his wife Irma. Toppenberg, a former study mentor of Dr. Kock came to Aruba from Holland for a very special occasion, to play for Padu del Caribe's 90th birthday celebration. He also composed a special waltz on the occasion aptly titled PADU 90 Anja, with lyrics by Denis Henriquez. The party enjoyed the hospitality of Amazonia Churrascaria also toasting to the health and well-being of the Father of Aruba's Culture, Padu del Caribe, whose birthday became a national celebration. Other local families mixed in with visitors, from the US and the Netherlands, enjoying more than 40 items on the salad bar and 16 perfectly grilled meats, for a weekend, dedicated to the Dutch Kingdom and the Queen.

The restaurant is gearing up for Mother's Day promising



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## Marriott to host Mother's Day Brunch and Dinner



**PALM BEACH** – This weekend, the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino warmly welcomes all mothers and their loved ones for a special Mother's Day celebration.

La Vista Restaurant offers a sumptuous breakfast & brunch buffet on Sunday May 9 from 7 am until 2 pm. The breakfast & brunch buffet offers all your favorite salads, eggs, muffins & Danish, fresh



fruits and yoghurts as well as a pizza station, fresh seafood and a carving station with ham and prime ribs.

For dinner the Aruba Marriott offers a very attractive menu especially for Mom.

barbecued shrimp, creamed spinach, mashed potatoes and much more. Furthermore for dessert Ruth's Chris is offering crème brulee on their \$45 menu, their most popular after dinner sweet treat.

The entire staff at the Aruba Marriott warmly welcomes all mothers and their loved ones on Sunday May 9 and wishes all a very pleasant and festive Mother's Day. □

As an extra touch especially for the local mothers La Vista has prepared the delicious local "chuculati di pinda", curry chicken and arroz morro. Besides all of this delicious food La Vista also offers complimentary mimosas, champagne and a sweet gift.

The elegant Ruth's Chris Steak House is offering a 3-course menu to celebrate their 45 years of sizzling existence with all the mothers on the island. The special 3-course menu is available at only \$45 per person and has a wide variety of choices like caesar salad, steak house salad, petite filet,

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Facilities fully accessible for those with physical constraints

# Elderly group impressed with airport facilities



ORANJESTAD – Recently the Aruba Airport was visited by the clients of Funari, who were particularly interested in the facilities that the airport provides to passengers with

physical limitations. 16 wheelchair clients of Funari got a tour starting at the check in counters and ending at the boarding gates. AAA made sure during the



physical changes of the last couple of years, that these would enable passengers with physical constraints to visit our airport. The clients of Funari got a clear image of the facilities starting from the check-in process up until they get on board of an airplane. From the specially made ramps, the elevators and also the extra services provided by the airlines, the clients of Funari were promptly informed. Management of Funari was very satisfied with the site visit and information that its clients received, both in the terminal and also on the airside with the bus especially made for those who use wheelchairs.

“The clients of Funari were very impressed with all the facilities from the AAA and that they now feel very safe to travel in a wheelchair”, said Jennifer Margaretha, Director of Funari. “The way how the AAA crew organized the tour was perfect and all explanations that they received were very clear. Everybody was very happy and impressed and found the tour a great experience. The volunteers said that it is never late to learn new things



because there were a lot of facilities at the airport that they didn't know about. On behalf of the Board, staff, clients and volunteers of Funari I thank AAA very much for this wonderful day!” At the end of this informative morning the clients of Funari were treated like real VIP's in

the airport's VIP-Room with snacks and beverages. AAA thanks Funari for their visit. Now they can rest assured that the Aruba Airport will be a comfortable start and ending point of their air travel. On the pictures you can see the clients of Funari during their airport visit..□

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## HUMAN HINTS

# Personal Information Distortion

In human interaction, it is important to understand that there is a fundamental distortion in the transfer of all information, especially between people. We each understand ourselves, and we assume that our personal understanding is identical for others. We assume that information is the same, but there is no such thing as perfect information. Distortion occurs because

we each have a personal filter for interpretation, which is built from our experiences, emotions and reactions. We each interpret information in our own way, based on these personal attributes.

All of our experiences and the information we gather is filtered through our personal individuality, which is one of the reasons that human

interaction is interesting and dynamic. However, when we expect others to understand something the same way we understand it, confusion and conflict often result.

Information is distorted to match the personal foundation for recognition which we have each created for ourselves throughout our lives. As adults, we must recognize what we encounter, in order to be able to associate with it.

Everyone will interpret the 'same' information differently. Effective communication focuses on the fine details of the end result. Make the details of the goal as clear as possible, and provide general guidelines about the process of getting there. Stress the order in which the steps must be done and highlight the important points in the process, then remember that the goal won't be reached by the exact path that you have in mind. Remember that the goal is the important part, so if the end result meets the expectations that you

communicated, the path to the goal is less important. With that said, experience teaches us to follow an efficient path, and it can be frustrating to watch others struggle needlessly.

When we understand that information is distorted for each individual person, we can have compassion for others because we get a better understanding of their motivations. When a woman wants to go to the symphony with her husband, she interprets it as romantic time together. When the husband thinks of a symphony, he looks forward to the quiet time to get some sleep. Understanding a person's motivations, might give you an understanding of how they might interpret information.

Our own information filters are ingrained and unconscious to us, and it is very hard to become aware of them. It is not important to understand someone else's filter, but it helps to know that we each understand information differently.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to [www.HumanHints.com](http://www.HumanHints.com) to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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# Spectacular seafood special at Driftwood

## From the pier to your plate at authentic Aruban seafood restaurant

**ORANJESTAD - It's happening downtown. Established Driftwood Restaurant launches a serie of spectacular and delicious seafood specials, available now.**

Driftwood is specialized in fresh seafood from the Caribbean Sea and has become the favorite spot for Aruban-style seafood dishes. Fresh fish is caught daily by the owner himself and



perfectly and authentically prepared by their talented local Chef.

Located in the heart of characteristic downtown, Driftwood offers you a unique dining experience. Enjoy the freshest fish, biggest shrimp, or the most succulent Caribbean lobster amid the rustic ambience of the natural driftwood dining room.

*The authentic local seafood restaurant.*

The menu includes a large variety of typically Aruban delicacies including a three star fish soup and a mouth-watering filet of fish served with a mild Aruban Creole sauce... a seafood lover's dream come true.

Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm.



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Every month the Chef treats his customers with a delicious dinner special. In June one may choose from different soups, fish cakes or salads to start with. The main

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Reservations: **583 2515**

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## SUPERB NEW ILLUSIONS

# MAGIC Live!. Comedy On the Beach 3 shows in 1

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**PALM BEACH - STEINFELD** presents WOW factor! at the **MAGIC LIVE!®**...theater-of-illusions show, Westin - Aruba. **MAGIC Live!®** theater-of-illusions show, starring Adam Steinfeld... is an amazing night of Magic, Grand Illusions and Comedy, superb magic at it's highest level, a lot of fun from start to finish, laugh-out-loud funny, intelligent, sophisticated, unconventional grand illusions, that will keep you asking, 'how

the heck did he do that?' Perfect for the holiday season, have you ever dreamed of disappearing and reappearing in an instant? Master illusionist, comedy magician, Adam Steinfeld **MagicLive** show at the **WESTIN**, Aruba, nightly 9PM, every night, doors open at 8:30PM, and tickets may be purchased at the door, in the intimate **Magic Live!** theater-of-illusions theater,

every seat is close to the stage. In his new illusion he calls; "PRESENT", a tall girl steps into a tiny box, elevated in-the-air, the box spins 360 degrees, then the sections are taken away, one by one, until the girl vanishes completely... right before your eyes! Then as if that isn't enough to run to your local optometrist, he re-assembles the box for the magicbabe to make a

### IF YOU GO

**What:** Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show

**Where:** Westin - Aruba, Palm beach (high-rise area)

**Who:** starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld

**ShowTime:** 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm

**TICKETS AVAILABLE: AT THEATER OF ILLUSIONS** box office located in Westin lobby starting at 7:30pm nightly up until showtime, or at front desk at anytime

**Price:** \$19.95 under 15, \$34.95 adults



triumphant reappearance. It's an all new original illusion not seen anywhere else in the world. I went back to see the show during rehearsals, and still couldn't figure out the secret.

Tourists and local fans will remember Steinfeld for past performances, in Aruba, and on network television, Mr. Steinfeld recently authored "the Houdini Conspiracy", aka "Houdini Lives!", a

collaborated work with new england mystery writer Al Blanchard, he believes will be turned into a feature film. SEE **MAGIC**, comedy and "seemingly impossible feats, get ready to marvel at the all new, **MAGIC!** theater-of-illusions show starring **ADAM STEINFELD**. **MAGIC LIVE!** theater-of-illusions show...at the **WESTIN**-Aruba, 9pm nightly, starring AdamSteinfeld. □



# The Radisson conducts a General Meeting



PALM BEACH – A recent General Meeting brought management and staff together at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, Grand Caribbean Ballroom. General Manager Rob Smith used the platform to update his team regarding the resort refresh and discuss the



upcoming summer months from the resort's business perspective.

Director of Operations Bob Curtis and Director of Human Resources Glenn Farro contributed in turn to the informative and educational session, in their areas of expertise.

Smith addressed a full house of engaged and interested associates, who have enjoyed the much-improved level of business leading to the multi-million dollar room refresh, out to

maintain the historic design of the property, and its West Indies-inspired spirit and style.

The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, fondly referred to as La Grande Dame, celebrated its 50th anniversary last summer. During its years as a bastion of island hospitality, the resort underwent a number of renovations and refreshes which account for its evergreen appeal and popularity as Aruba's most loved resort. □





Papillon Restaurant

# When only the best is good enough for your mom



PALM BEACH - There are mothers who deserve the best this world can offer. Actually, most of them do. For these special moms Papillon Restaurant in The Village has a super special Mother's Day menu. It starts with an amuse of gazpacho of watermelon and cilantro with chèvre goat cheese on a whole wheat crouton with honey and pine nuts. This mouthwatering amuse is followed by an appetizer, a salad of white and green asparagus with mixed greens, roasted cherry tomatoes, a



truffle dressing and quail eggs with strips of smoked salmon and a carpaccio of maple roasted duck breast with a rucola salad. The appetizers need a main course, of course, so prepare yourselves for a superb surf and turf: Angus beef tenderloin, grilled to perfection with a tender piece of Caribbean rock lobster, a potato gratin and haricots verts and a béarnaise sauce. Dessert is chocolate oozing lava cake with vanilla marinated forest fruit and strawberry ice cream. Mothers will be welcomed with a red rose, but don't tell her yet... keep it as a surprise! After all that, your mom will love the whole world, we believe. □

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PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan. Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge. The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more. The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

**Restaurant**  
**open daily**  
Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11 pm  
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For more information or to make reservations, please call 586-4686. □





At Westin Resort, Aruba

# Traditional Hindu wedding ceremony held on beach



**PALM BEACH** — This past weekend, A Hindu wedding ceremony based on the traditions and rituals originating over 40 centuries ago from the Sanskrit books of knowledge, known as the Vedas and which form

the basis of Hinduism, was held on the beautiful shores of Palm Beach at the Westin Resort, Aruba.

Richard and Avani shared this special moment with friends and family that traveled to the island from the U.S. and India for the destination wedding and reception coordinated by the wedding, special events and banquet teams at the Westin. The majority of the ceremony took place in a mandap (a wedding canopy built of four poles to represent the universe). Each of the five

Indian elements—fire, water, air, earth, and space—were represented in the mandap. Agni (holy water) exists as a divine witness to the sacred union, and it symbolizes the illumination of knowledge and happiness. The ceremony was followed by a cocktail reception and dinner.

The Westin Resort, Aruba is one of Aruba's top choices for destination weddings and events, with a skilled and knowledgeable staff to help tailor each and every detail to fit a variety of budgets, styles, and cultures. □





# For A Relaxed Dinner

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## The importance of the Certificate of Attendance in Technical IT Training

ORANJESTAD - As far as Technical IT Training concerns, I see more and more IT Professionals who focus on obtaining an IT Certification, without attending a course and without really having the necessary skills training.

Since 1995 I provide Technical IT Training regularly, which allows for an international certification. Back then official certification was less important than as it is now. As a Technical IT Trainer it was important to provide quality courses and afterwards you got feedback from the evaluations of the trainees.

Later on official certifications were required by more and more companies like Cisco, CompTIA, IBM, Microsoft, Novell, etc. Certifications were becoming ever more important in jobs and Authorized Training Institutes and their training partners were increasingly requiring certification of trainers.

The students, but also the trainers and the Training Centers had to be certified and had to take official international certification exams. So in addition to a "Certificate of Attendance", there was more and more demand for official international certifications. Since I provide mostly Microsoft Certification Courses, I had to obtain a Microsoft Certified Trainer Certification.

At Microsoft, they call an official international certification a "Certificate of Excellence". A "Certificate of Excellence" can be achieved through an examination conducted by an "Authorized Exam Provider" like Prometric or Pearson VUE. Many IT Professionals prepare for official international exams by using Exam Trainings or examination courses, which can be obtained on the Internet from companies such as

Test King, Transcender, etc. These examination courses represent a high percentage of the real exam questions and answers. So technically, if you study sufficiently on these examination courses you will likely have a very high chance of success.

By studying these online examination courses IT Professionals will obtain some theoretic knowledge of the software product, but it gives no application skills. You can however obtain the necessary skills in a formal Instructor led certification course since you will get approximately 50% lecture and 50% tutorial. Because of these developments, I believe that the "Certificate of Excellence" is of little value without a corresponding official Certificate of Attendance. At Microsoft, they call this a "Certificate of Achievement". This practice should be more familiar with Human Resources Staff who are responsible for the training file within their



organizations. So when the Human Resources Staff accept "Certificates of Excellence" without "Certificates of Attendance / Achievement", in my opinion, you will get "IT surgeons" within your organization, who have never made a real "IT surgery". Also if you are planning to hire

IT professionals from an IT company for a longer period of time, it would make sense to ask for their "Certificates of Attendance / Achievement" too. You can verify these certificates at the Training Center where they were obtained. You can also ask a recognized Training Center for advice on which

"Certificates of Attendance / Achievement" an IT professional would need to have to work with your organization to perform adequately enough. Do you want to make your IT infrastructure with your vital business information to serve as a guinea pig by theoretical certified "IT surgeons"? □

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**HEALTH****Aruba TODAY****FDA finds grime at J&J plant, urges use of generics**

By Susan Heavey

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – U.S. inspectors found thick dust and contaminated ingredients at the Johnson & Johnson plant that produces Children's Tylenol and dozens of other products that were recalled last week.

A Food and Drug Administration report released on Tuesday said its inspectors found thick dust and grime covering certain equipment, a hole in the ceiling and duct tape-covered pipes at the Fort Washington, Pennsylvania, facility that made 40 products recalled last Friday.

Inspectors also found raw ingredients contaminated by an unspecified bacteria, a lack of quality control procedures and poor handling of complaints, according to the report dated April 30.

The findings were a further blow to J&J's reputation, as the FDA later on Tuesday urged parents to choose private label alternatives for the over-the-counter medications and said it was weighing possible further regulatory action.

"Consumers should not use these products," Deborah Autor, director of the Office of Compliance at FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research told reporters in a conference call, even though the chance of getting sick from the recalled products was "remote."

There were 46 consumer complaints about dark material in the liquid products between June 2009 and April 2010, according to the FDA report.

J&J, which has issued four major product recalls in the last year, said on Tuesday that the quality problems at the plant "are unacceptable to us" and that it would continue to work closely with the FDA to fix them.

The company has suspended production at the plant.

"We will not restart operations until we have taken the necessary corrective actions and can assure the quality of products made there," said a statement from J&J's McNeil Consumer Healthcare unit.

On Saturday, the FDA urged consumers to stop using liquid Tylenol, Motrin, Benadryl and Zyrtec for children and infants after a broad recall late on Friday.

Investors have largely shrugged off the recall as a minor financial concern for J&J, maker of a wide variety of devices, medicines



A combination photo shows Concentrated Tylenol infants drops 1oz (L), Children's Tylenol Suspension 4oz and Children's Tylenol dye free suspension 4oz bottles which are being recalled by Johnson & Johnson's McNeil Consumer Healthcare unit.

REUTERS/Tylenol/Handout

and other consumer products. While the Tylenol brand is closely connected with its public image, it amounts to a tiny fraction of nearly \$62 billion in annual sales.

"The latest recalls of children's Tylenol probably means there's just less upside to J&J's earnings estimates," said RBC Capital Markets analyst Glenn Novarro. "They can manage the expense side to make up for this. J&J just doesn't miss numbers." But officials at the FDA, which has vowed closer industry oversight under the Obama administration, said the recall served as an example of companies' responsibility to ensure the quality of the products they make.

"While the potential for serious health problems is remote, Americans deserve medications that meet FDA standards for quality, safety and efficacy," FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg told reporters.

The FDA's report said inspectors found raw material used to manufacture several lots of Children's and Infant's Tylenol was contaminated with bacteria, but none of the finished drug product sampled tested positive.

Agency inspectors will complete a more detailed, narrative report for FDA officials to evaluate and determine if further action is needed, the FDA's Autor said. That could include sending a warning letter, seizing products, seeking a court order to halt manufacturing or pursuing criminal penalties.

J&J survived a massive recall of intentionally contaminated Tylenol products in the 1980s and its handling of the matter is widely studied as a model business and public relations case.

Branding expert Robert Passikoff said so far the company has done everything right in handling the latest recall.

"There's no way to excuse it and J&J isn't. What they're looking to do is fix whatever the problems are," said Passikoff, head of Brand Keys Inc. Customers are loyal to the Tylenol brand "and that goes a long way."

J&J shares closed down 1 percent at \$64.70 on Tuesday, underperforming the 0.6 percent decline in the pharmaceutical sector as measured by the Arca Pharmaceutical Index. The stock is up 23 percent since hitting a low of \$52.60 a year ago.

A full list of more than 40 affected products made by McNeil Consumer Healthcare can be found at <http://www.mcneilproductrecall.com>.

To view the FDA's inspection notice, click on: <http://link.reuters.com/mum62k>

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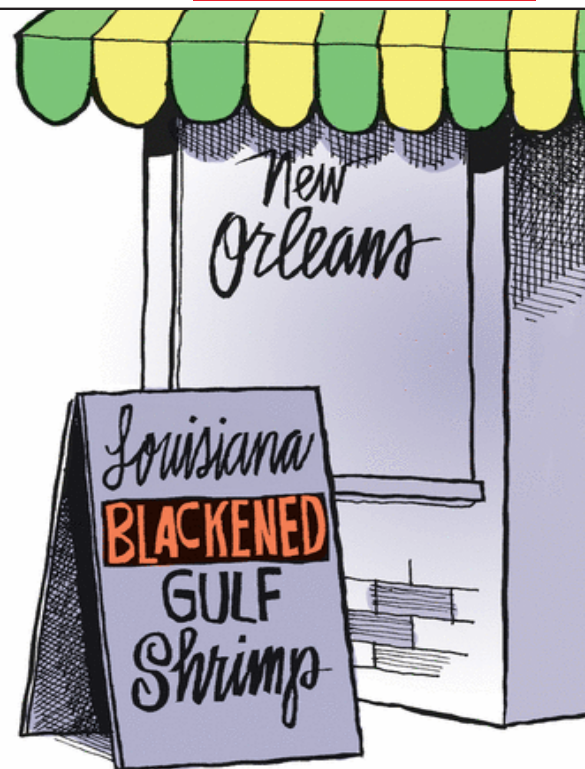


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# Except For N.C., Both Parties Win Primary Night

**Kyle Trygstad & Mike Memoli**

North Carolina Secretary of State Elaine Marshall finished short of winning the 40 percent necessary to take the Democratic nomination and the right to challenge Republican Sen. Richard Burr. The result was the one aberration in an otherwise good night for the two national parties, which got their favored candidates in the other two states holding contested Senate primaries on Tuesday.

In Ohio, Lt. Gov. Lee Fisher defeated Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner in the Democratic primary and will face former Rep. Rob Portman in the general election. In Indiana, former Sen. Dan Coats won a competitive Republican primary and will likely take on Rep. Brad Ellsworth, whom Democratic leaders in the state are expected to select as their nominee next month. The Ohio and Indiana seats are open following the retirements of Sens. George Voinovich (R-Ohio) and Evan Bayh (D-Ind.).

In North Carolina, Marshall received 36 percent, followed by Cal Cunningham with 27 percent and Ken Lewis with 17 percent. As the top two finishers, Marshall and Cunningham will face each other again in a June 22 runoff, a costly addition for Democrats who would rather turn their attention toward Burr.

The Marshall campaign has already requested that Cunningham drop out of the race in deference to Marshall winning a plurality of the votes.

"Secretary Marshall won this race by a decisive margin. It would be best if Democrats in North Carolina could unite around her nomination to defeat Richard Burr," Thomas Mills, a Marshall consultant, told RealClearPolitics. "It's time for Cal Cunningham to join with Secretary Marshall to defeat Senator Burr in November."

Marshall received a boost from early votes, taking 42 percent of absentee ballots compared with less than 18 percent for Cunningham. Lewis actually received more absentee votes than Cunningham, taking 22 percent.

Keeping Marshall under the 40 percent mark was the fact that the other three candidates in the race -- Marcus Williams, Ann Worthy and Susan Harris -- took larger-than-expected portions of the overall vote, combining to win about 19%.

Cunningham finished second despite help from the national party, which heavily recruited him to

the race after several other Democrats -- Attorney General Roy Cooper, and Reps. Heath Shuler and Bob Etheridge -- opted against running. A phone call from President Obama helped nudge him into the race in early December.

However, fundraising and momentum never took off. Despite running TV ads weeks before Marshall, a Public Policy Polling survey taken just before the primary indicated the ads hadn't penetrated. The poll found little difference between the two when voters were asked who they'd heard more about during the campaign; and nearly the same number of people said they'd seen a TV ad for Marshall as did for Cunningham.

Also, nearly half of likely voters still weren't sure two days before the primary whether they had a favorable or unfavorable impression of Cunningham; 39% said the same about Marshall.

Cunningham is young (36), highly educated, has a political background (former one-term state senator) and is an Iraq war veteran -- all attributes that led the national party to back him over his opponents.

Marshall, meanwhile, has four successful statewide elections under her belt (all for secretary of state), though she finished a distant third in the 2002 Democratic Senate primary. She was endorsed by the Charlotte Observer, the state's largest newspaper, and led in every public poll since February.

Defeating Burr in November will be a whole other animal for Marshall or Cunningham. The first-term senator is not considered as vulnerable as many assumed he was a year ago. For one, the national mood has turned against Democrats, and that could play out in a swing state like North Carolina.

Getting African Americans to the polls will be essential for Democrats. That voting bloc made up 23% of the 2008 electorate and 95% voted for Barack Obama, giving Democrats their first win in the state since 1976.

The PPP poll taken earlier this week found Marshall leading a hypothetical runoff against Cunningham by a 43-32 percent margin, with a quarter of voters undecided.

As for the open seat races in Ohio and Indiana, both parties see a path to victory based on the strength of their candidates and the national mood.

In Indiana, former Sen. Dan Coats took the first step

in his political comeback by fending off the challenge of state Sen. Marlin Stutzman - supported by some in the tea party movement and Sen. Jim DeMint - and former Rep. John Hostettler. He received less than 40 percent of the vote -- hardly a show of strength -- but with no runoff Coats is the nominee.

National Republican Senatorial Committee Chairman John Cornyn called Indiana "one of the strongest pick-up opportunities for Republicans." Democrats say the GOP establishment made a puzzling choice pushing Coats given the anti-establishment mood of the country.

"In Dan Coats, national Republicans got who they wanted, and who they got is an establishment Republican steeped in the culture of Washington; a super-lobbyist beholden to special interests for his fortune," DNC spokesman Hari Sevugan said.

But Coats came out swinging in his victory speech, making it clear that while Indiana may have swung blue for President Obama in 2008, the mood of Hoosier voters is in a far different place.

"In light of the damage that President Obama's policies have already done to the United States of America, as Hoosiers we cannot afford to be any part of this at all," he said. "And we absolutely cannot afford to elect someone to the United States Senate who will enable this radical move to the left."

He also referred to Ellsworth's vote for the health care reform law and said that "anyone who has voted to reappoint Nancy Pelosi as Speaker of the House cannot be trusted to protect Indiana's interest."

In Ohio, the national party breathed a sigh of relief as the establishment-backed Fisher posted a 55-44 percent win over Brunner.

Brunner struggled to raise money and had to constantly reject calls for her to quit the race, and yet polls showed her running even with Fisher and performing better against the Republican nominee, Rob Portman, in November. That changed in the final weeks as Fisher's money advantage kicked in.

In Portman, Democrats see the baggage of a former Congressman and Bush budget director. "Ohio can't afford to allow self-proclaimed 'Washington insider' Rob Portman to bring back his job-killing economic and trade policies that helped pave the way for the global recession," state Democratic Party chair Chris Redfern said after the vote. □



En Colombia

# Candidato presidencial Mockus marca diferencia con Chávez

BOGOTÁ (Reuters) - El candidato a la presidencia de Colombia por el Partido Verde, Antanas Mockus, anunció que en su eventual Gobierno no permitirá que el mandatario de Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, exporte su revolución socialista al país vecino como lo temen algunos de sus críticos.

Mockus, quien registró en la última semana un sorprendente ascenso en las encuestas sobre intención de voto y pelea el primer lugar con el candidato oficialista Juan Manuel Santos, se comprometió a dar continuidad a las principales políticas del presidente Alvaro Uribe, si gana las elecciones, incluido el tema de seguridad y lucha contra la guerrilla.

Algunos críticos del ex alcalde de Bogotá expresaron temor a que si gana la presidencia facilite la expansión a Colombia del proyecto político de Chávez, un militar retirado que dice encabezar una “revolución socialista” a favor de los pobres.

Pero en una entrevista dentro del Foro de Reuters sobre Inversión en América Latina, Mockus replicó: “No, tajantemente no. Es un tema de competencia de ideas y de competencia práctica”.

“Si dentro de cuatro años

Colombia está mucho mejor que Venezuela, no hay mejor argumento para parar la exportación eventual, pero ha habido algo de histeria”, explicó al ser consultado sobre si permitiría la influencia de la revolución chavista en la nación cafetera sudamericana. No obstante, tranquilamente sentado en la biblioteca de su casa, agregó: “Yo creo que a pesar de las razones que puedan existir para ser pesimista, uno debe jugar la carta de cooperación, de confianza y luego va viendo. He recibido advertencias de que ese señor te enamora al comienzo, después te da tres vueltas y te maltrata”.

Las relaciones de Colombia y Venezuela atraviesan su peor crisis en la historia reciente por decisión de Chávez de detener el comercio bilateral, en represalia por un acuerdo que firmó el presidente Alvaro Uribe con Estados Unidos y que ha calificado como una amenaza para su revolución. Chávez, el más fuerte crítico de Washington en Sudamérica, habló repetidamente en las últimas semanas sobre las elecciones presidenciales de Colombia y dijo que Santos, ex ministro de Defensa de Uribe, representa una “amenaza” para la región.

## Noriega apela su detención ante una corte francesa

PARIS (AP) - Una audiencia judicial escuchará la apelación del ex dictador panameño Manuel Noriega para que sea liberado de prisión preventiva, informaron abogados y un juez el miércoles. Noriega, de 72 años, está preso en la cárcel parisina de La Santé desde el 27 de abril, tras su extradición desde Estados Unidos para responder a cargos de lavado de dinero proveniente del narcotráfico.

Las autoridades francesas acusan a Noriega de lavar unos tres millones de dólares mediante la compra de apartamentos lujosos en París. En caso de ser hallado culpable podría ser condenado a 10 años de prisión.

Los abogados de Noriega y un juez francés, quien habló bajo la condición de anonimato, dijeron que la audiencia se realizará el viernes. Los abogados y el juez también dijeron que el juicio se realizará el 28, 29 y 30 de junio próximos.

Francia se niega a considerar a Noriega un prisionero de guerra como lo era en Estados Unidos. □

El Gobierno y los demás candidatos, incluido Mockus, rechazaron la intervención de Chávez en el proceso electoral.

Mockus, un matemático y filósofo de origen lituano, prometió combatir los problemas de corrupción para impulsar la inversión extranjera en Colombia, cuya meta de crecimiento económico cree debería ser de al menos un 4 por ciento anual. “La invitación es a invertir en Colombia, si Colombia corrige los problemas de corrupción, estoy seguro que atraerá mucho capital que yo llamo ‘zanahorio’, capital sano que juega limpiamente”, aseguró.

“Si Colombia no corrige sus fenómenos de corrupción, o no tendrá inversión, o se vendrán los capitales más habituados a prácticas indebidas, no queremos eso, queremos lo primero”, explicó al insistir en que buscará combatir la evasión de impuestos en toda la sociedad con campañas pedagógicas. □



El candidato presidencial de Colombia del Partido Verde Antanas Mockus, durante una entrevista a Reuters en Bogotá. Mayo 4 2010. REUTERS/Jose Miguel Gomez

## Presidente boliviano rechaza revisión salarial pese a protestas

LA PAZ (Reuters) - El presidente de Bolivia, Evo Morales, rechazó el miércoles la posibilidad de modificar la austera política salarial que provocó el día anterior la primera huelga nacional en sus poco más de cuatro años de Gobierno.

El mandatario indígena y líder de los sindicatos de productores de coca pidió “racionalidad” a la cúpula sindical que organizó la protesta -que tuvo escaso impacto laboral pero derivó en incidentes de violencia- en demanda de un aumento salarial mayor al cinco por ciento decretado por el Gobierno.

Morales sugirió que la huelga pudo ser alentada por una “infiltración de la derecha” en las organizaciones que conforman la Central Obrera Boliviana (COB), organismo que había apoyado casi incondicionalmente las medidas previas del Gobierno socialista, en particular la “nacionalización” de la

economía.

“El Presidente jamás va a tomar medidas en contra de los trabajadores, pero también tiene que haber racionalidad de los trabajadores, con la Patria”, dijo Morales en conferencia de prensa, evitando comentar sobre sus futuras relaciones con la ahora disuelta COB.

La declaración presidencial se produjo mientras sindicatos de trabajadores fabriles y de maestros anunciaban que continuarán sus protestas por mejores salarios, incluidos huelgas de hambre y bloqueos de carreteras.

Morales dijo tener “ética y moral” para defender el aumento salarial, que ubicó el salario mínimo en 679 bolivianos mensuales, unos 96 dólares, recordando que desde el 2006 mantiene congelado su propio salario, así como los de los ministros y legisladores. □





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